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**BY AUGUSTUS J. C. HARE.**

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**NORTH-EASTERN FRANCE.**

**SOUTH-EASTERN FRANCE.**

**SOUTH-WESTERN FRANCE.**

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*In preparation.*

**NORTH-WESTERN FRANCE.**

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LONDON:

GEORGE ALLEN, 8, BELL YARD, TEMPLE BAR;  
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SOUTH-EASTERN FRANCE.





# SOUTH-EASTERN FRANCE

BY

AUGUSTUS J. C. HARE

AUTHOR OF 'PARIS,' 'WALKS IN ROME,' 'WALKS IN LONDON,' ETC.

159273.  
14.2.21.

GEORGE ALLEN

8, BELL YARD, TEMPLE BAR, LONDON

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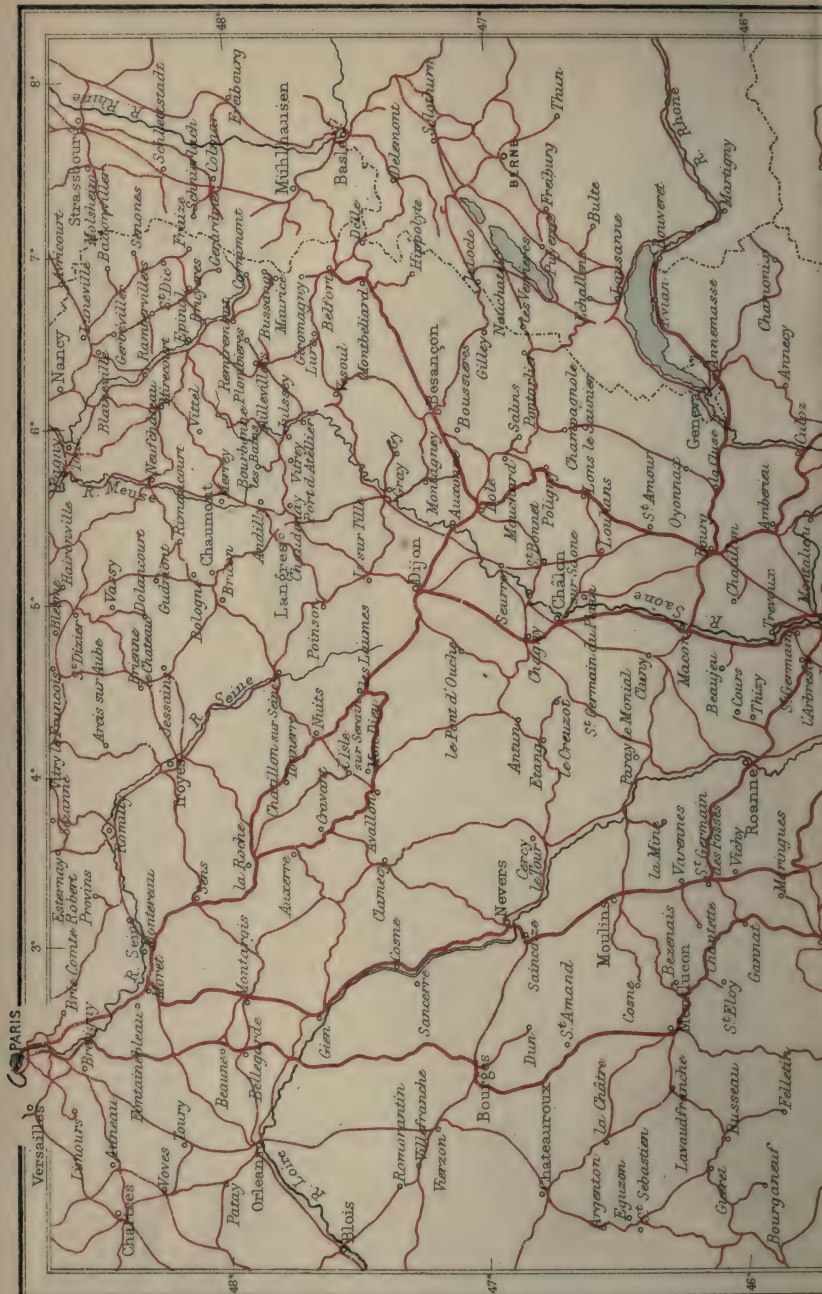


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## CHAPTER I.

PARIS TO LYONS BY THE CENTRAL RAILWAY TO THE SOUTH — FONTAINEBLEAU, SENS, JOIGNY, TONNERRE, TANLAY, ANCY-LE-FRANC, MONTBARD, DIJON (CITEAUX), BEAUNE (AUTUN), CHÂLONS-SUR-SAÔNE, TOURNUS, MÂCON (CLUNY, PARAY-LE-MONIAL, ARS), LYONS.

For a detailed description of the places near Paris, Fontainebleau inclusive, see *Days near Paris*.

THE railway passes—

6 k. *Charenton*, with its famous lunatic asylum.

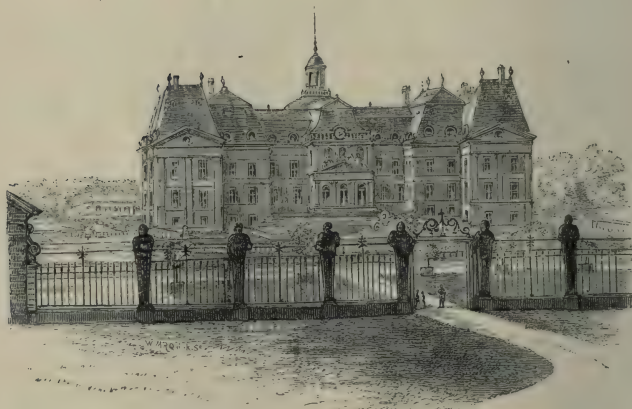
22 k. *Brunoy*. The château, rebuilt 1722, belonged to Monsieur, brother of Louis XVI. The title of Marquis de Brunoy was conferred upon the Duke of Wellington by Louis XVIII. after the Battle of Waterloo.

45 k. *Melun* (Hotel: *du Grand-Monarque*). The church of *S. Aspais* is xv. c.; that of *Notre Dame* x. c. A statue commemorates the illustrious native Amyot. 6 k. N.E. is the noble château of *Vaux-Praslin*, built by Fouquet, the 'surintendant de finances' under Mazarin, famous for the fête which he gave here to Louis XIV. Louis VII. was buried, 1180, at the abbey of *Barbeaux*, near Melun, which he had founded.

## 59 k. Fontainebleau.

[The town is 3 k. from the station. Omnibus, 30 c. Hotels: *de France et d'Angleterre*—very good, but dear; *de Londres; de l'Europe*. Carriages: 2 horses—1st h., 4 fr.; 2nd h., 3 fr.; 1 horse—1st h., 3 fr.; 2nd h., 2 fr.: by the day—2 horses, 20 fr.; 1 horse, 10 fr.]

The first king of France who made a residence here



CHÂTEAU DE VAUX-PRASLIN.

was Louis le Jeune, who dated his acts of 1137 and 1141, 'apud fontem Bleaudi.' But the golden age of Fontainebleau began with the Renaissance, and with François I., who wished to make its palace the most glorious in the world. His buildings, decorated by the best Italian workmen of the time, were magnificently continued under Henri IV., and the succeeding kings. The facilities which

Fontainebleau afforded for hunting, made it a favourite resort of royalty, and Louis XIII. was born in the château. Early in the reign of Louis XIV., the palace was lent to Christina, ex-Queen of Sweden, and became the scene of the murder of her secretary, Monaldeschi. Napoléon I. made Fontainebleau the residence of Pius VII., when



CHÂTEAU DE FONTAINEBLEAU.

he came for the emperor's coronation; and it was here that, Jan. 25, 1810, the Pope was induced to sign the famous *Concordat*, by which he abjured his temporal sovereignty. Here also Napoléon I. made his false abdication, and, in the courtyard in front of the palace, took his touching farewell of the soldiers of the *Vieille Garde*.



The interior of the château is shown daily from 11 to 4. It is entered from the Cour du Cheval Blanc. The most interesting portions are the *Chapelle de la Sainte Trinité* (François I.), where Louis XV. was married to Marie Leczinska; the *Appartements de Napoléon I.*, including the 'Cabinet de l'Abdication;' the *Boudoir de Marie Antoinette*, with metal-work wrought by Louis XVI.; the *Chambre à Coucher de la Reine*, inhabited in turn by five queens named Marie; the *Galerie de Diane* (Napoléon I.); the *Salon de François I.*, with a chimney-piece of his date; the glorious *Galerie d'Henri II.*, built by François I., but decorated by Henri II.; the *Chapelle S. Saturnin* (François I.); and the *Galerie de François I.*, with paintings by Il Rosso and Primaticcio.

The *Gardens*, laid out by Le Nôtre, have much of stately old-world magnificence. The *Étang* remains near which Louis XIV. used to dance with 'Madame' (Henrietta, daughter of Charles I. of England), filled with carp of great age. The drives in the *Forest* are full of beauty and variety, especially where great moss-grown rocks are mingled with the old oaks; perhaps the finest points are the *Gorges d'Âpremont* and the *Gorge aux Loups*.

67 k. *Moret* (Hotel: *du Commerce*), a very pretty and curious old town, where the kings of France had a château, of which the chief tower remains, dating from Louis le Gros (1128). Henri IV. gave it to one of his mistresses, Jacqueline de Bueil, with the title of Comtesse de Moret. At either end of the principal street is a fine old gothic gateway, relic of the fortifications of Charles VII. (1420), and one of these rises most picturesquely at the extremity of the bridge of fourteen arches over the

Loing. The *Church*, built by Louis le Jeune, and consecrated by Thomas à Becket in 1166, only retains a choir of that date. The triple nave and the transepts, with mullioned windows taking all the surface of the gabled wall, are XIII. c.; the graceful little tower, xv. c.; the principal portal, xvi. c.

‘Les parties parallèles du choeur de cette église possédaient



MORET.

une galerie de premier étage ou triforium voûté au-dessus des ailes; mais l'abside, semi-circulaire, sans collatéraux, possède, au-dessus d'un rang de fenêtres basses, un triforium dont la composition originale nous montre une suite de lunettes ou roses sans meneaux, entre lesquelles est ménagé un passage. Les détails de cette partie de l'église sont du meilleur style des premières années du xiii. siècle.'—*Viollet le Duc*.

S. of the church is a timbered *House* of xv. c., and a

little *Hospice*, where the nuns make excellent barley-sugar. In the main street a renaissance *House* is inscribed 'Concordia res parvae crescunt, 1618.'

[The Chemin de Fer du Bourbonnais branches off at Moret to Nevers, etc. See ch. ii.]

79 k. *Montereau-Fault-Yonne* (omnibus, 20 c.; Hotel: *du Grand-Monarque*). The old French name of this place marks its position at the point where the Yonne falls (*fault = finit*) into the Seine. On the site of the Roman Condatum, a monastery was founded here in the first years of Christianity, and a fortified town rose around it. In 1419 the old bridge over the Yonne (rebuilt), which was fortified by gateways and defended by a drawbridge, was the scene of the murder of Jean sans Peur, Duc de Bourgogne, by the advice of Tannegui Duchâtel and other followers of the Dauphin (afterwards Charles VII.), who had a personal dread of the results of a reconciliation between him and their master.

'Vers les trois heures de l'après-midi, le duc descendit au château de Montereau, et, laissant ses gens d'armes à la porte qui regardait la ville, il s'avança, suivi de neuf seigneurs et d'un secrétaire, sur le pont où l'attendait le dauphin. Le duc et ses compagnons, suivant les conventions arrêtées, ne portaient que la cotte et l'épée. Jean sans Peur en fit l'observation à Tannegui Duchâtel et à un autre Dauphinois, qui le vinrent recevoir aux barrières avec des haches à leur ceinture; néanmoins il passa outre, en frappant sur l'épaule de Tannegui et disant à sa suite: "Veez-ci en qui je me fie!"—"Vous avez bien tardé!" répondirent les Dauphinois; et ils l'introduisirent précipitamment dans la loge, lui et le seigneur de Noailles, un des frères du comte de Foix. Les autres seigneurs bourguignons étaient un peu en arrière.

'Les barrières furent renfermées derrière eux. Ce qui se passa ensuite a été rapporté très diversement par les deux partis.



Suivant les Bourguignons, le duc aborda le dauphin en ôtant son aumusse (chaperon à longues bandes) de velours noir et en fléchissant le genou : " Monseigneur," lui dit-il, " je suis venu à votre mandement. Vous savez la désolation de ce royaume, votre domaine à venir ; entendez à la réparation d'icelui. Quant à moi, je suis prêt d'y exposer le corps et les biens de moi et de mes vassaux, sujets et alliés."—" Beau cousin," répliqua le dauphin, " vous dites si bien que l'on ne pourrait mieux ; levez-vous et vous couvrez."

'Un signe fut alors, dit-on, échangé entre le dauphin et Tannegui, qui s'écria : " Il est temps !" Et, à l'instant où le duc se releva, Tannegui " le fêrit si roidement d'une hache parmi le visage que le duc chut à genoux." Le duc mit la main à son épée et fit un effort pour se relever ; mais le vicomte de Narbonne et les autres chevaliers du dauphin, qui étaient tous " armés à blanc " sous leurs robes, se ruèrent sur Jean et l'abattirent à terre comme mort. Un nommé Olivier Layet l'acheva en lui " boutant une épée par-dessous son haubergeon tout dedans le ventre." Le sire de Noailles tomba au même instant, la tête fendue par derrière d'un coup de hache. Les autres Bourguignons accoururent trop tard : les soldats dauphinois, embarqués près de l'extrémité du pont donnant sur la ville, s'étaient élancés en foule par la barrière demeurée ouverte de ce côté, tandis que l'autre barrière, du côté du château, avait été fermée, suivant les conventions, pour empêcher les gens d'armes bourguignons d'avancer. Un seul des dix compagnons du duc Jean s'échappa ; tous les autres furent tués ou pris. Quant au dauphin, il avait été emmené par le président Louvet dès le commencement du tumulte.

'Ainsi finit Jean sans Peur, par une trahison aussi noire que celle dont il avait lui-même donné l'exemple, douze ans auparavant, envers le duc d'Orléans. Les conséquences en devaient être plus terribles encore ; chacun des grands forfaits qui se succédaient périodiquement depuis l'avènement de Charles VI. enfonçait la France plus avant dans l'abîme : la France venait d'être assassinée, pour ainsi dire, avec le duc de Bourgogne !—*Martin, 'Hist. de France.'*

The *Church*, formerly collegiate, has five naves without

transepts, and a circular E. end with three radiating chapels : the façade and tower are renaissance. Between the xviii. c. bridges over the Seine and Yonne is an equestrian statue of Napoléon I., with two reliefs on the pedestal representing the victory which he gained at Montereau over the Würtemberg troops.

[There is an omnibus (1 fr. 25 c.) to the old walled town of *Voullx*, 12 k. distant.]

[A branch line of 30 k. connects Montereau with Flamboin, on the line from Paris to Troyes.]

90 k. *Villeneuve-la-Guyard*, has a xvi. c. church containing good wood-carving. At 9 k. distant is *Villethierry*, where the church, much altered, dates from xii. c.

95 k. *Champigny*, has a church of xii. c. and xvi. c. In the neighbouring village of *Chaumont* are remains of a priory of xii. c.

102 k. *Pont-sur-Yonne* (Hotel : *de la Marine*), has a beautiful xiii. c. church of three naves, with an admirable xiii. c. statue of the Virgin at the portal. It contains pictures by *Parocel*, ob. 1715. A house in the Rue du Château, flanked by tourelles, was once part of a fortress. Near this, at a spot called *Hauts-Bords*, is a fine dolmen.

1 k. distant are the remains of *La Cour Notre Dame*, a priory of the order of Cîteaux, xiii. c., with a noble rose-window at the chevet, and a beautiful xvi. c. portal : in the garden of the priory is a tall menhir. 14 k. in this direction is *Bray-sur-Seine*. The road thither passes the farm of *Sixte*, formed from an ancient priory of xvi. c.; and runs a little to the r. of *Serbonnes*, with a xvi. c. church (whence, from a house on the l. of the Place, came Jacques Clément, the assassin of Henri III.), and by (5 k.) *Sergines*, which has a xvi. c. church with fine xviii. c.

screens and two bénitiers of XII. c. Here, remains of a Roman road—*Chemin Perré*—are to be seen.

113 k. *Sens* (Hotel: *de l'Écu*—excellent, close to the Cathedral; *de Paris*). The ancient city of Sens was, before the Roman dominion, the capital of the Senones, and was called Agendicum. Its walls were rebuilt by the Romans, who adorned it with many fine buildings. The inhabitants were early converted to Christianity by SS. Savinien and Potentien, who suffered martyrdom here. In 615 S. Loup is said to have miraculously put to flight the troops of Thierry, who were besieging the town. The remembrance of these especial mercies is supposed to have made the population ultra-Catholic in 1562, when they massacred all the Protestants within the walls; and Sens was one of the first towns in France to espouse the cause of the Ligue. Natives of Sens are called Senonais.

The archiepiscopal *Cathedral of S. Étienne* is said to have its origin in a little sanctuary which S. Savinien founded on the ruins of a pagan temple in the III. c. The actual building is due to Archbishops Henri de France (1122-43) and Hugues de Toucy (1143-68), and is consequently very interesting from its date: the choir much resembles that of Canterbury, rebuilt by William of Sens in 1175. The most ancient part of the church is the little N. apse chapel. The façade and vaulting were much altered in the XIII. c.; the chapels round the choir were built in XIV. c.; and transepts in XV. c. or XVI. c. In its main building, except the Cathedral of S. Denis, that of Sens may be looked upon as the earliest gothic monument in France.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Félix de Verneilh, *Annales Archéologiques* xxiii., 128.

The vast central portal of the façade is richly adorned with statues: on the central pillar is a striking figure of S. Étienne, holding a book, and in the tympanum his story. The three colossal statues near the summit of the façade are modern; a little above the smaller portal on r. are faint remains of an equestrian statue of Philippe-Auguste. The tower, which fell in 1267, was only rebuilt in xvi. c.: of its once famous ancient bells, only two remain—*Savinienne* and *Potentienne*, of 1560. On the basement of the l. portal are much-injured reliefs of Liberality and Avarice; the latter represented as a woman, with disordered hair, seated on a coffer. The cathedral is so hemmed in by houses that very little of the exterior can be well seen. A picturesque renaissance porch leads through the court of the archiepiscopal palace to the beautiful portal of the S. transept. The front of the N. transept is covered with flamboyant tracery. The interior is magnificent, entirely pointed, except the wall-arcading of the nave. The central nave is of great width. The windows contain a great deal of fine stained glass of xii. c. to xvi. c. That (in the choir aisle) representing the Sibyl consulted by Augustus, is said to have been designed by Luca Penni, brother of Francesco. The legend of S. Eutrope is by Jean Cousin. In the windows of the S. transept the story of Thomas à Becket is told,<sup>1</sup> and there is a picture of the murder opposite the entrance to the sacristy. The high altar and its baldacchino are by Servandoni, 1742. Between the nave and its l. aisle is a beautiful gothic altar, with statues of the Virgin and S. Stephen. The chapel of the Virgin (r. of choir, xv. c.) contains a good statue of the Virgin of 1334;

<sup>1</sup> As at Chartres and S. Ouen.



the E. chapel has a representation of the martyrdom of the first bishop, S. Savinien. In the adjoining chapel of S. Colombe (late xvi. c.) is the tomb of the Dauphin, son of Louis XV., and his wife the austere Marie Josèphe de Saxe, considered to be a masterpiece of Guillaume Coustou. The same chapel contains two reliefs, which are the only remains of the tomb of Cardinal Archbishop Duprat, Chancellor of France, destroyed at the Revolution. The kneeling figures on either side of this are those of Cardinal Jacques Duperron and his brother Jean Duperron, both Archbishops of Sens.

On the r. of the choir is a very picturesque staircase, and a door with curious ironwork. This forms the entrance to the *Treasury*, a vaulted hall with a barrel roof, containing the interesting episcopal robes of Thomas à Becket, and his very low mitre; the episcopal robe of S. Ebbon (viii. c.); the head of S. Savigny, first Bishop of Sens; the ring of S. Loup, Bishop of Sens (there was another of Troyes), and the curious ivory comb which he used in holding back the hair of candidates for ordination, when it was cut off; the ring of Gregory XI., previously Bishop of Sens; the very curious reliquary with the body of S. Colombe; a splendid ivory reliquary of the III. c., brought from the East in the Crusades; magnificent old tapestries which belonged to the Cardinal de Bourbon; a beautiful ivory Christ, by *Girardon*; and the coronation robe of Charles X., brought hither to be placed on the tomb of his father the Dauphin, during his commemoration service.

In this cathedral S. Louis was married to Marguerite de Provence in 1234; and, five years later, the king and

his brother, Robert d'Artois, brought hither the crown of thorns, afterwards taken to the Sainte Chapelle at Paris.

The *Archiepiscopal Palace*, built by Cardinal Louis de Bourbon, in 1557, is a very striking building ; all its details are classical, but most harmonious.

'The upper pilasters cannot be dispensed with, if the lower range is to be employed, which seems an indispensable part of the arcaded forms below ; and the way in which their lines are carried through a console, gives them all the continuity of a buttress, with more than its usual grace.'—*Fergusson*.

To the r. of the Cathedral and Palace is the *Salle Synodale*, called *L'Officialité*, built 1240 ; much injured by the fall of the cathedral tower in 1267, and recently restored to its primitive state by Viollet le Duc.

'Le rez-de-chaussée, bâti sur caves, est voûté sur une épine de colonnes et contient les salles de l'officialité et les prisons. Une entrée carrossable passe sous l'extrémité septentrionale de cette salle, et un large escalier partant de ce passage conduit à la salle du premier étage ou salle synodale, un magnifique vaisseau où l'on peut réunir facilement huit à neuf cents personnes. Du côté de la place, des contre-forts sont couronnés par des pinnacles très-riches, variés, surmontant des statues, parmi lesquelles on distingue celle du roi Saint-Louis, la seule peut-être qu'il y ait encore en France de son temps. La sculpture de la salle synodale de Sens peut être comptée parmi les meilleures de cette époque. Les profiles, les détails, sont traités évidemment par un maître, et aucun édifice ne présente un fenêtrage mieux conçu et d'un aspect plus grandiose.'"—*Viollet le Duc*.

In the *Hôtel de Ville* is a precious picture, one of the only two authentic known works of *Jean Cousin*, representing 'Ève, la première Pandore.'

The *Church of S. Pierre le Rond*, in the centre of the town, dates from XIII. c., but has been altered xv. c. and xvi. c.; it has some good stained glass. The chapel of the hospital, or *Church of S. Jean*, is XIII. c., altered in xvii. c.: the choir, of the earlier period, is surrounded by an open gallery, passing behind the piers of the vaulting and in front of the triple windows. The entrance to the *Halle* is XIII. c. *S. Maurice*, a quaint half-timbered church, on the island in the Yonne, dates from XII. c. to xvi. c., and contains the relics of SS. Fort, Guinefort, and Aveline. *SS. Savinien and Potentien*, at the end of the faubourg of that name, is a fine church, said to have been founded by the saints in III. c., rebuilt v. c., and restored xi. c.: the crypt is of 1001: the altar is affirmed to be that upon which S. Savinien was celebrating at the moment of his martyrdom. Amid tufted trees, on a vine-covered hill, r. of the railway station, is a chapel whither *S. Bond* is said to have retired in the VII. c.; it was formerly a great point of pilgrimage.

On the r. bank of the Yonne, a little N. of the town, is the abbey of *S. Colombe* (a Gaulish virgin martyred by command of Aurelian), founded by Clotaire II. in 620, and originally embracing a monastery, palace, and castle, surrounded by walls and towers. Of the ancient buildings only some outer walls, the XIII. c. refectory, and a crypt remain. A church has been rebuilt here for the *Soeurs de la Sainte Enfance*. Thomas à Becket resided for several months at S. Colombe, where a plain stone, inscribed 'Rodolphus Rex,' used to mark the grave of King Raoul, 936.

The banks of the Yonne, near Sens, are very pretty, and the landscape artist will find good subjects towards evening

in the grey cathedral and old houses rising beyond the trees on the still reaches of the river.

‘The Yonne, bending gracefully, link after link, through a never-ending rustle of poplar trees, beneath lovely vine-clad hills, with relics of delicate woodland here and there, sometimes close at hand, sometimes leaving an interval of broad meadow, has all the lightsome character of French riverside scenery on a smaller scale than usual, and might pass for the child’s fancy of a river,



SENS.

like the rivers of the old miniature painters, blue, and full to a fair green margin.’—*Walter Pater*.

Sens may well be made headquarters for several excursions by rail and road—to Moret, Villeneuve-sur-Yonne, Fleurigny, etc. The last is a pleasant afternoon drive.

[A road of 43 k. leads from Sens to Nogent-sur-Seine, passing—

2 k. *S. Clément*. The church is XIII. c. On l. of road *Popelin* has an ancient lazaret house, restored XVI. c., and now a farmhouse.



7 k. *Soucy*, has a church of xvi. c., with a massive fortified tower of xv. c. Jean Cousin, famous both as a painter and sculptor, was born at Soucy in 1530.

15 k. *Thorigny*. The church is xv. c. 3 k. W. is the very beautiful moated renaissance *Château de Fleurigny*, of 1520, occupying the site of an old castle destroyed by the English. It belongs to the Marquis de Raigecourt, and is well kept up. The



CHÂTEAU DE FLEURIGNY.

windows and chimneys of the façade are of great beauty. In the Salle des Gardes is a fine chimney-piece. The chapel is double. In the lower chapel is an important window, representing the Sibyl consulted by Augustus, which is usually attributed to Jean Cousin. The village *Church*, of xii. c., has curious sculptured brackets in its choir.

24 k. *Sognes*. The church has a crypt of x. c. or xi. c. A little *menhir* is called *Le Pas-Dieu*.

25 k. *Le Plessis-Gâteblé*. The church is xii. c. and xvi. c.

31 k. *Trainel*, on the Orvin, with picturesque ruins of a château and walls: the church of *S. Gervais* is renaissance: the priory chapel of *S. Madeleine* (xvi. c.) was a dependence of the Paraclete.

35 k. *Gumery*. The church is xii. c. The *Château de Motte-Tilly* is xviii. c.

43 k. *Nogent-sur-Seine* (see *North-Eastern France*).]

[A railway leads from Sens to Troyes by the valley of the Vanne to—

14 k. *Theil Cerisiers*. *Theil* (1 k. l.) has remains of a Roman aqueduct. Over the entrance to the church is a xii. c. relief of *S. Martin*. The road which leads hence to *S. Florentin* passes a little E. of the ruined *Abbaye de Dilo*, founded 1132, and consecrated by *Thomas à Becket*.

16 k. *Pont-sur-Vanne*, has remains of a Roman aqueduct. The church is xii. c. and xvi. c.

27 k. *Villeneuve-l'Archevêque* (Hotel: *de la Tête-Noire*). The church, of xii. c. and xvi. c., has a fine xiii. c. portal, richly decorated with statues and statuettes. In the interior is a xvi. c. *S. Sépulcre* brought from the abbey of *Vauluisant*, and some good glass.

(An excursion may be made from Villeneuve by *Molinons*, with a xiii. c. church; and (3 k.) *Lailly*, with xv. c. woodwork in the chapel of *S. Roch*: to (5½ k.) the fortified *Abbey of Vauluisant* in the valley of the *Alain*. The ruins, chiefly xiii. c., are approached by a xvi. c. gateway. (8 k.) is *Courgenay*, formerly walled, with a church of xv. c. and xvi. c., which contains a Crucifixion attributed to *Jean Cousin*, a processional cross of xii. c., and other relics.)

The road passes l. the Manor of *Maulny-le-Repos*, so called because *S. Louis* once slept there.

33 k. *Vulaines*, occupies the site of the Roman *Clanum*: the church (xii. c.) contains three tombs of xiii. c. 3 k. S.E. is *Rigny-le-Ferron*, where the church has a number of xvi. c. relics. 4 k. S.E. of this is *Bérulle*, with a very fine xvi. c. church, with good glass and fine font. The place gave a name to the family of which Cardinal *Pierre de Bérulle* was a member, who introduced the Carmelites and Oratorians into France. 13 k. N. by

Mareilly is *S. Lupien*, with the curious tomb of the saint, bearing an axe.

36 k. *S. Benoît*, has a well-preserved xvi. c. château.

40 k. *Aix-en-Othe, Villemaur*. 4 k. S. is *Aix-en-Othe*, owing its name to its springs, near which remains of Gallo-Roman baths have been found. The church has tapestries and paintings on wood and copper of xvi. c. 1 k. is *Villemaur*, originally walled. The church (xiii. c. and xvi. c.) contains a splendid wooden renaissance rood-loft, and an ancient copper reliquary. A diligence runs from the station to (22 k.) *S. Lupien* or *Somme Fontaine*, where the church (of xii. c. and xvi. c.) contains a Gallo-Roman tomb, said to be that of *S. Lupien*.

51 k. *Estissac*, originally called *S. Liébault*.

69 k. Troyes (see *North-Eastern France*).]

[A carriage road leads from Sens to (48 k.) Nemours, by—

8 k. *Villeroy*. The xv. c. church has a fine xviii. c. rétable. The road passes on l. *Fouchères*, where the church (xiii. c. and xv. c.) has xv. c. glass and sculpture.

15 k. *S. Valérien*. The church (xii. c. to xvi. c.) contains a striking xvii. c. tomb.

24 k. *Chéroy*. The church (xiii. c. to xvi. c.) has a fine xviii. c. altar, which comes from the Château de Nolon. On the Place du Marché aux Porcs is a tithe-barn of the xiii. c. 5 k. on the road to Villeneuve-la-Guyard, is the *Château de Vallery*, replacing an earlier building of the xiii. c. erected by a sire de Vallery famous in the Crusades. This earlier château was besieged, taken, and dismantled by the Earl of Warwick in 1425. In the xvi. c. its reconstruction was begun, under Philibert Delorme, by Jacques d'Albon, Maréchal de S. André, the favourite of Henri II. The widow of the marshal gave the château to Henri I., Prince de Condé, who made it a centre of Protestantism. The Grand Condé was brought up there. Only the gateway between the round xiv. c. towers remains from the older château, with the moat and some of the outer walls: and the buildings of Delorme are much dilapidated. The church, built 1612 by Henri II., father of le Grand Condé, contains the noble tomb of the founder, by Claude Sarrasin, bearing the statue of the prince, and with emblematic statues of Justice, Courage,

Prudence, and Temperance. A gravestone is inscribed with the names of all the members of the house of Condé buried in the sanctuary. In the sacristy is the tomb of Louis de Bourbon, killed at Jarnac in 1569. A modern chapel contains the tomb, with a statue, of General de la Ferrière, 1834, by Carle Elshoëct.]

[A railway leads from Sens to (64 k.) Montargis (see ch. ii.) through the district called *Gâtinais* (a name meaning lands often flooded), passing—

7 k. *Subligny-Villeroy*. The xv. c. church of *Subligny* has a high altar with xvi. c. paintings. The (xiii. c. and xviii. c.) church of *Paron* has good xvi. c. glass; in the cemetery is a cross of 1532.

27 k. *Courtenay*, which gave a name to the family so famous in the Crusades and which sent three emperors to Constantinople. Only the base of a single tower remains of the ancient fortress of the Sires de Courtenay. The church, re-built on the l. bank of the Clairy in 1581, retains a romanesque tower.

40 k. *Triguères*, occupies the site of the Roman station of Vellaunodunum, and has remains of a theatre, baths, and cemetery, which existed in Roman times, but were perhaps of Gaulish origin. The church is xi. c., xii. c., and xvi. c.

44 k. *Château-Renard* (Hotel: *du Sauvage*), named from a castle re-built in the x. c. by Rainard, Comte de Sens. This fortress, again rebuilt by S. Louis, became a royal palace, and then, from the time of Philippe de Valois to the xvi. c., an appanage of the Dukes of Orléans. It was dismantled in 1627, and only some ruined towers and a church of xi. c. and xiii. c. remain. In a tower of the château, now part of the presbytery, Anquetil, prior and curé of Château Renard, 1766-92, wrote most of his *Histoire de France*. The handsome *Château de la Motte*, upon the Ouanne, was built by Louise de Coligny, daughter of the great admiral and widow of the murdered Prince of Orange, in 1609.]

127 k. *Villeneuve-sur-Yonne*, sometimes called *Villeneuve-le Roi* (Hotel: *du Dauphin*—which has a good renaissance doorway) is a most picturesque old town, where an artist



will be delighted with the two principal streets, formed by houses of most varied outline and colour. At each end of the chief of these is a fine XIII. c. *Gateway*, the tall *tourelles* of which, combined with the winding street, where bright green foliage emerges here and there from the grey courts, make a striking picture. The older part of the *Bridge*, of small narrow arches, is of the time of Louis VII., the founder of the town. The church of *Notre Dame* has



VILLENUEVE-SUR-YONNE.

portals (N. and S.) of XIII. c., and a renaissance façade. The interior is strikingly beautiful, with very wide nave and aisles : there is some good stained glass, and near the S. door a polygonal bénitier (XIII. c.), surmounted by a curious castellated canopy : the pulpit is early renaissance. The *Ancienne Maison de Poste* (XVIII. c.) is adorned with medallions of pagan gods. The *Tour de Louis le Gros* is a circular keep which was isolated from the castle by a wide deep ditch : a stair in the thickness of the wall gave access to its different storeys.

135 k. *S. Julien-du-Sault* (1 k. from station), famous for its red wine, has an interesting church, for the most part XIII. c., with a porch of that time, and admirable stained glass of XIII. c., XIV. c., and XV. c. Several houses have richly carved beams. On the neighbouring hill is a XIII. c. chapel which belonged to the castle, now in ruins.

[5 k. W. is *Verlin*, where the gothic church has good XIII. c. glass, and (10 k.) *S. Martin d'Ordon*, where the church has a tomb of 1526, and a beautiful reversed capital as a bénitier. A little S. of Villeneuve is the XVII. c. *Château du Fays*, containing portraits of the Chancellor d'Aguesseau and Ninon de l'Enclos.]

141 k. *Cézy*, a fortified town with remains of XIII. c. walls, and gates, and a church of the same date, containing a XV. c. Pietà.

146 k. *Joigny* (Hotels : *du Duc de Bourgogne ; de la Poste*), formerly Joviniacum, from Jovinian, is a small picturesque town which astonished the Prussians by its heroic resistance in 1870. Its bridge of seven arches over the Yonne is XVII. c. and XVIII. c. The church of *S. Jean*, rebuilt 1400—1596, is chiefly renaissance. The interior is very rich : two pillars of the sanctuary are XII. c. In the Chapelle de la Vierge are remains of the tomb of Guillaume I., Comte de Joigny, 1219 : in the Baptistry is a marble S. Sépulcre (XVI. c.) attributed to Cristoforo Cibo, and brought from Italy in 1617 by Emmanuel de Gondi, with the two bénitiers at the entrance of the nave. The church of *S. André* is XI. c. and XII. c., altered in XV. c. and XVI. c., and has an admirable renaissance portal, and the sepulchral statue of Guillaume I. Near this church is a gate of XIII. c., the only remnant of the *Priory of Notre Dame*. The church of

*S. Thibaut*, 1490—1529, has a xv. c. chapel of great beauty, rebuilt in 1864 : over one of the doors is an equestrian statue of the patron saint. The nave contains the kneeling sepulchral figure of Étienne Porcher, sergeant-at-arms to the king (xiv. c.) : in the sacristy is a Crucifixion by *Albert Dürer*.

The former cemetery, now a promenade, near *S. André*,



JOIGNY.

once contained the curious octagonal *Chapelle des Ferrand*, built by Jean Ferrand, Archbishop of Sens, in the time of François I., as the mausoleum of his family : it is now ruined by being built into the Palais de Justice. Nothing remains of the ancient *Château* but some of the outer walls and the (xii. c.) *Port de S. Jean*. The *Château Neuf* (1550—1613) was built by Serlio, architect to François I. The *Hôpital de Tous les Saints*, founded in 1330 by Jeanne de Valois, daughter of Jean II., Comte de

Joigny, was rebuilt in 1843 : the foundress is buried under the altar of the chapel. S. Vincent de Paul, who lived here for some time, did much for the charitable institutions of Joigny. On the remains of the city walls, one of the ancient gates—*la Porte du Bois*—still exists. Several timber houses are xv. c.

To the r. of the railway is *Champlay*, where Louis XIV. built a magnificent château for Bollé, Marquis de Champlay, Maréchal des Logis : nothing remains but the offices.

[A road leads W. from Joigny to (36 k.) Triguères (on the line from Sens to Montargis) by—

6 k. *Béon*, overlooked by a hill-set xvi. c. church. Beyond this, on the l. of the road, in a valley, is the *Chartreuse de Valprofond*, founded in 1301, by Isabelle de Mello, Comtesse de Joigny.

25 k. *Villefranche*, to the S. of which is the (xv. c.) *Château de S. Phal*, moated, and flanked by two great round towers. 1 k. is the ruined Cistercian *Abbey of Echarlis*, founded 1120, near a mineral spring of great repute, which was used by Louis le Gros and François I. Only the gateway, part of the cloister, and the pilgrimage chapel of *Notre Dame de la Pitié* remain of the abbey, which was ruined at the Revolution. The road passes on l. the *Château de Launay*, partly xvi. c.

31 k. *Douchy*. The church, partly xii. c., has fine stallwork from the abbey of Echarlis.]

[A road leads S.W. to (30 k.) Villers S. Benoît on the line from Triguères to Clamecy, by—

9 k. *Sénan*, with a xii. c. and xvi. c. church and xviii. c. château.

20 k. *S. Aubin Châteauneuf*, with a xv. c. church. The moated *Château de Fourolles* has two towers and a gateway.]

155 k. *La Roche*, where the Auxerre-Clamecy-Avallon railway branches off. See ch. iii.



164 k. *Brienon-l'Archevêque*, of which the seigneurie belonged to S. Loup, archbishop of Sens. The walking-stick of S. Loup is preserved in the church, which is of xv. c., xvi. c., and xvii. c.

173 k. *S. Florentin* (omnibus, 30 c. Hotel : *de la Porte Dilo*). The town, 2 k. E. of the station, is named from a saint who suffered martyrdom here in III. c. In the vi. c. Brunehaut was attacked here by the Neustrian chief-tain Landry, who was killed in battle at Chalandry (Champ-Landry). The last of the Phélippeaux, Vicomtes de S. Florentin, was created Duc de la Vrillière by Louis XV.

Only a single tower, used as a belfry, remains of the old fortifications. The Grande Rue leads to a small square with a fountain. A staircase ascends to the N. portal of the *Church*, which is partly xv. c. gothic, partly xvi. c. renaissance. Four windows, dated 1528, have rich glass and sculptures. There is a very fine renaissance *jubé*, and behind the high-altar a remarkable S. Sépulcre, with delicate bas-reliefs of the Passion, surrounding a relief of the Resurrection. The stained glass window, to r. of this, represents the life of S. Florentin. Opposite the staircase leading to the church is the *Hôtel-Dieu*.

[It is a drive of 28 k. from S. Florentin to Auxerre, by (8 k.) the famous Cistercian *Abbey of Pontigny* (carriages to Pontigny, 5 fr., opposite S. Florentin station), founded by Hugues de Macon in 1114, being one of the four daughters of Cîteaux and itself the mother of forty-five other abbeys of the order in France, Italy, Poland, and England. Thomas à Becket took refuge here in 1164-66, and here, whilst kneeling in the church before one of the altars, had a vision of the Saviour, Who said to him, 'Thomas, Thomas, my Church shall be glorified by thy blood.'

The recollection of the hospitality shown at Pontigny to

S. Thomas made later archbishops of Canterbury turn to its abbey as a refuge in time of trouble. Archbishop Stephen Langton and several English bishops took refuge here in 1208, when banished by John. Lastly S. Edme—Flos Angliae, decus Galliae—came hither in 1240, and remained for two years; and though his death, in 1242, occurred at the Priory of Soisy-en-Brie, near Provins, his body was brought back to Pontigny in 1247, having been canonised (as one who had spent his life in a contest for the spiritual against the temporal power) by Innocent IV. in 1245, only three years after his death. It would be difficult to say why, but there has always been an especial veneration for S. Edme amongst the people of Burgundy. After his exhumation at Soisy-en-Brie, at which S. Louis assisted in person, his body was enclosed in a shrine, which stood at Pontigny between the pillars of the sanctuary, and drew a ceaseless concourse of pilgrims to the abbey. Louis XI. came here in 1477 to pray by the shrine, and two years after, being unable to come himself, made the pilgrimage again by deputy, and at the same time presented the abbey of Pontigny with a vineyard near Dijon—'Afin que les religieux priassent Dieu, Notre Dame et S. Edme pour lui le roi, le dauphin et la reine, et même pour la *bonne disposition de notre estomac*, que ni vin ni viande ne nous puissent nuire, et que nous l'ayons toujours bien disposé.'<sup>1</sup> The shrine of S. Edme was renewed in the xvii. c., and the devotion of the people has preserved it uninjured through many revolutions.

The drive from S. Florentin to Auxerre is for the most part through forest, but Pontigny itself is in a bare, ugly situation. The huge *Church of S. Edme* is surrounded by walls, except at the W. end, and has no external beauty. It was entirely built after 1150 by Thibaut le Grand, Comte de Champagne, Blois, et Chartres. In 1568 and 1569 it was burnt, with the monastery, by the Huguenots, but it was restored 1615 and 1630, and exists almost entire. It is 108 mètr. long by 22 wide, and 21 high.

'Cet édifice est d'une homogénéité parfaite, et semble être d'un seul jet. Les transsepts sont très-développés. La nef n'a pas de chapelles latérales, comme toutes les églises de l'époque, mais on en trouve une série complète bordant les bas côtés qui font le tour du choeur.'—*De Caumont*.

<sup>1</sup> Leboeuf.

The porch (xii. c.) is of the kind characteristic of Cistercian abbeys, three bays wide and two deep, occupying the width of the principal nave, and with two side halls for the service of the abbey.

‘Des voûtes d’arête sans nervures couvrent ce porche et viennent reposer sur deux colonnes. Une porte extérieure correspond à la porte principale de la nef, et des deux côtés s’ouvrent, sur un large et haut bahut, deux arcades divisées par des colonnettes accouplées. Tout cet ensemble, y compris les deux salles, est couvert par un comble en appentis avec demi-croupes aux deux extrémités. Au-dessus du comble du porche est percée une énorme fenêtre dans le grand pignon ; elle éclaire la nef. A l’extérieur, la construction de ce porche est d’un aspect froid et triste. A l’intérieur, les chapiteaux des colonnes sont ornés de sculptures d’une simplicité toute puritaine, et le tympan de la porte de l’église n’est décoré que d’une croix en relief.’—*Viollet le Duc*.

The choir has the peculiarity of the radiating chapels being polygonal within and yet presenting a flat square face externally, with only the base of the flying buttresses projecting beyond the line of roof. The hundred stalls are xvii. c. The shrine of S. Edme, sustained by angels, rises behind the choir. A simple table tomb, with an abbatial cross engraved upon the lid, is that of the founder Hugues de Macon, friend and disciple of S. Bernard.

Part of the cloisters exists on the N. of the church, and was restored xviii. c. A large vaulted building of two storeys remains from the monastic buildings. In the garden is a fountain with a great stone swan.]

[There is a diligence (2 fr. 50 c.) from S. Florentin to (25 k.) Chablis, passing (13 k.) *Ligny-le-Châtel*, which possesses a transition church, and (in the lower part of the Rue des Moulins) *La Maison de la Reine de Sicile*, which belonged in xiii. c. to Marguerite de Bourgogne, Queen of Sicily. At 17 k. is *Maligny*, with some remains of an ancient castle, and a later château, from which (1655) Marie Casimir, daughter of its last titular Count, the Marquis d’Arquien, was married to John Sobieski, king of Poland.]

[The road from S. Florentin to (47 k.) Troyes passes through (20 k.) *Auxon*, where the church has a fine XVI. c. altar-piece; (33 k.) *Bouilly*, where the church has a magnificent renaissance altar-piece; and (41 k.) *S. Germain*, with statues, tabernacle, and glass of XVI. c.]

The railway passes a number of good village churches, and (r.) the *Château of Junay*, with four towers, before reaching—

197 k. *Tonnerre* (Hotels: *Lion d'Or*; *des Courriers*), a very picturesque little town on a hill above the Armançon, crowned by the church of *S. Pierre*, which is chiefly renaissance, with a choir of 1351, and surrounded by delightful walks and lime-avenues. The church of *Notre Dame*, now disused, has a renaissance façade, three naves of XV. c. and XVI. c., and an apse of XIII. c. The *Hospital*, founded by Marguerite de Bourgogne in 1293, has been rebuilt, except the *Salle des Malades*, which has been converted into a parish church, and contains the tomb of the famous Louvois (Seigneur of Tonnerre during the last years of his life) by Girardon and Desjardins, and that by Bridan, erected in 1826 to Marguerite de Bourgogne, Queen of Sicily, daughter of Duke Hugues, wife of Charles de Valois, brother of Philippe le Bel, and mother of Philippe VI. At the end of the nave, on the l., a black marble slab covers the grave of Anne, Comtesse de Tonnerre, 1636. The vaulted timber roof is very curious, and its timbers of the most extraordinary size: it has long been a subject of dispute whether they are oak or chestnut. In the XIV. c. vaulted hall, called *La Revestière*, is a curious S. Sépulture, of eight stone statues. At the foot of the hill rises the spring called *La Fontaine de la Fosse Déonne*. In the Hôtel



de Ville is a portrait of Marshal Davoust. The *Hôtel d'Uzés* (Rue des Fontenilles) is one of the best of many old houses in Tonnerre. No. 21, Rue du Faubourg du Pont was, in 1728, the birthplace of the celebrated Chevalier d'Éon. It was at Tonnerre (in returning from Vichy) that the Duchesse d'Angoulême first heard of the revolution



TONNERRE.

which dethroned Charles X., and from the bridge of S. Nicolas she escaped in a carriage.

Two nights should certainly be spent either at Tonnerre or Montbard to make the (exceedingly worth while) double excursion by rail to Tanlay and Ancy-le-Franc, which may be seen on the same day.

[A road of 49 k. leads from Tonnerre to Avallon (diligence, 2 fr.)

by (20 k.) *Noyers*, a curious old walled town upon the Serein, with a good xv. c. church, and some remains of a priory; (34 k.) *L'Isle-sur-le-Serein*, with remains of a xv. c. château, and other good domestic architecture; and (45 k.) *Sauvigny-le-Bois*, near which is the priory of *S.-Jean-les-Bonshommes*.]

[The road from Tonnerre to (57 k.) Troyes passes (28 k.) *Chaourcé*, near the source of the Armanche, where in the ix. c. the kings of France had a favourite residence. The church (xii. c. and xvi. c.) has stained glass and a S. Sépulcre of xvi. c. Several timber-houses of xv. c. and xvi. c. have admirable details. The *Haloirs* are of xiii. c. A *College* was founded by Amadis Jamin, a poet of the time of Charles IX. and Henri III.]

[The road from Tonnerre to (52 k.) Bar-sur-Seine passes (at 37 k.) by the triple commune of *Ricey-Haut*, *Ricey-Hauterive*, and *Ricey-Bas*. The churches of the two former are xv. c. and xvi. c., the latter xvi. c.

On the road to Tanlay is *Commissey*, with a beautiful stone cross of xvii. c., and 2 k. E. of this the ruins of the Cistercian *Abbey of Quincy*, of 1133, consisting of the abbot's house (xii. c. and xv. c.), the dormitory (xii. c. and xvii. c.), and the spring of S. Gauthier.]

205 k. *Tanlay*, on the Armançon, celebrated for its magnificent *Château* (1½ k. l. from the station), bought in 1535 by the family of Coligny, and rebuilt in 1559 by François de Coligny d'Andelot. It was purchased under Louis XIV. by Michele Particelli, Sieur d'Émeri, Ministre des Finances, who partly rebuilt it, carefully preserving all its ancient Burgundian characteristics, and it afterwards came to his son-in-law, Louis Phélippeaux, Duc de la Vrillière. In the latter part of the last century, it was purchased by the family of Thénuen, whose representative at the time of the Great Revolution was saved from the guillotine by his cook, then secretary to Robespierre.

The present Marquis de Tanlay is his grandson. The château is approached from the station by a noble lime avenue, which leads directly to *Le Petit Château*, an exquisite little building erected in 1610 by Jacques Chabot, Comte de Charny, but never quite finished. Its admirable design and rich frieze are amongst the best works of the time, and the orange colour of the stone of which it is built



TANLAY. LE PETIT CHÂTEAU.

adds to its effect. The Petit Château serves as a gatehouse to the green lawns in front of the great château, which stands at right angles to it, and is approached by a bridge across a moat, flanked by two obelisks, and leading to the lofty *Portail-Neuf*, behind which is the Cour d'Honneur, decorated with fine orange-trees, and surrounded on three sides by the main buildings, of which the r. wing ends in the tower of the chapel (1648), and the l. wing in the Tour des Archives. These towers rise directly from

the moat. The façade towards the gardens is of the time of François de Coligny. The tower on the r. is called the Tour de la Ligue, because there Coligny and the Prince de Condé used to hold counsel during the wars of religion: the curious circular upper room in which they met is covered with mythological frescoes in the style of Primaticcio. Beyond this, the interior does not contain anything of special interest, but is one of the noblest specimens in France of a well-kept country house, in the



TANLAY. LE GRAND CHÂTEAU.

most perfect taste, the delightful living-rooms opening by wide windows on the park and gardens. The rooms contain some old tapestry, and several of them have stately stone chimney-pieces, the handsomest, adorned with statuettes and caryatides, being in the *Chambre de l'Archevêque*. English visitors will always be struck with the small number of servants considered quite sufficient, and found quite efficient, in these grand French country-palaces.

211 k. *Lézennes*, with a church of XIII. c. and XV. c., and houses of XV. c.



219 k. *Ancy-le-Franc* (Hotel : *de la Poste*). 1½ k. l., on the opposite bank of the Armançon, is the magnificent château of the Duc de Clermont-Tonnerre. It was begun by Primaticcio in 1546, and continued by Serlio, the two great Italians imported for Fontainebleau by François I., and employed here by the Comte de Clermont, Grand Master of the Woods and Forests of France and afterwards Constable



ANCY-LE-FRANC.

of Dauphiné. The walls were not finished till 1622. In 1683 the Comte François-Joseph de Clermont sold the château to the Marquis de Louvois ; but since the Revolution, in which the precious contents of the building were greatly injured, it has been re-purchased by the family of its ancient possessors, and it is gradually being restored with the utmost taste and care

The interior of Ancy-le-Franc is shown in the absence of the family. The enormous square mass and regular

forms of the building, enclosing a great courtyard, are those of a palace. The *Galerie des Sacrifices*, and the *Galerie des Batailles de César et Pompée*, are covered with frescoes in grisaille, the latter admirable. The chapel is surrounded by frescoes representing the life of the Hermits in the Desert, beneath which are apostles and prophets. The *Salle des Gardes*, used as a theatre by the Louvois, retains its ancient wall-paintings of fleurs-de-lis, and the broken chimney-piece, whose heraldic decorations excited the fury of the Revolutionists. The *Chambre des Fleurs* is covered with beautiful paintings of flowers. The *Chambre des Arts* has representative frescoes: under the Louvois this was called the *Chambre de Richelieu*, but his portrait has been removed to show the earlier allegorical picture beneath: '*Urit, nequidem non consumit.*' The Galleries of Judith and Jason are named from their frescoes. The duke's private room has admirable early decorations. But perhaps the best chamber of all is that covered with frescoes of the story of Pyramis and Thisbe, attributed to *Niccolo Abbate*. The *Salon des Rois*, used by Louis XIV., is in the style of Fontainebleau. All these rooms are on the first floor. On the ground floor are the *Salle des Empereurs*, and another room with admirable mythological frescoes, by Primaticcio or his pupils.

225 k. *Nuits-sous-Ravières*, has an old gateway defended by a barbican and drawbridge. The church of *Ravières* has a good xv. c. portal. 5 k. distant is the fine ruined *Château de Rochefort*, dismantled in 1411 by Jean sans Peur.

[There is a branch line from Nuits-sous-Ravières to (36 k.) Châtillon-sur-Seine (see *North-Eastern France*, ch. ix.), passing

(13 k.) *Sennevoy*, with an old château turned into a farm: and (20 k.) *Laignes*, with church of XII. c. and XVI. c.]

The railway passes (l.) *Perrigny*, with a stone cross of 1582 in its cemetery, before reaching—

233 k. *Aisy-sous-Rougemont*. *Rougemont*, on l., has a church with a lofty tower, houses of XIII. c., and, on a height, the ruins of a castle of XII. c.

[The road from Aisy to (37 k.) Avallon passes (14 k.) *Vassy*, with a château of XVII. c., two towers of XVII. c.; and (25 k.) *Montréal*, on a hill which once bore a castle used as a residence by Queen Brunehaut, who has left her name to a causeway connecting the bridge of Montréal with the ruined castle of *Montelon* (XVI. c.). Only some outer walls and two gates (XIII. c.) remain of the château of Montréal. The small but important early gothic XII. c. and XIII. c. church has a very peculiar rose window, one of the two earliest in France, and a W. front which is only decorated by a wide portal of very great beauty, with the rich corbels which are a characteristic of Burgundian churches. In the interior is the very rare incident of a stone tribune above the entrance, with its altar still in place. It is reached by two stone staircases from the side aisles, and rests on a monolith column, and a bracket composed in four tiers of great stones. It is supposed that this tribune was intended for the lord of the manor, whose château is to be seen in ruins close to the church. The tribune adds to the size of the church, which is very small and ends in a square apse, with a transept and two little chapels. Some of the windows are decorated with rich designs in the lead work, figures in colour or sculpture not being admitted in Cistercian churches. The stalls and pulpit are good XVI. c. work. In the churchyard are flat tombstones with a flat cross and a little bénitier attached to the gable at the foot. The village contains several xv. c. houses. In the courtyard of one of them is an interesting *Well*, circular internally, octagonal externally, with two pillars supporting a stone bar, inscribed, 'Johan de Brie m'a fait faire en l'an 1526.'

9 k. from Vassy, in the direction of Sémur, is *Châtel-Gérard* with a fortified XVI. c. house. 2 k. hence is the menhir called *La Femme Blanche*, and 3 k. the old priory of *Val-des-Choux* (XV. c.) with tombs of the Anserics de Montréal.]

The country becomes very hilly before reaching—

243 k. *Montbard* (Hotel: *de l'Écu*—good and clean, though primitive), a pretty little town, below and on the side of a wooded hill crowned by an old tower, which is all that remains of the castle, pulled down by the naturalist Buffon (Georges-Louis Leclerc), a native of Montbard, when he purchased the property in 1742. His study is to be seen in the later château; in a chapel, added (XVIII. c.) to the church; is his tomb; and in the town his statue by Dumont, 1847. Louis XV. made the lands of Buffon a countship, in honour of his services to natural history and science.

‘On ne peut plus soutenir dans leurs détails ni le premier ni le second système de Buffon sur la théorie de la terre. Mais Buffon n'en a pas moins le mérite d'avoir fait sentir généralement que l'état actuel du globe résulte d'une succession de changements dont il est possible de saisir les traces; et c'est lui qui a rendu tous les observateurs attentifs aux phénomènes d'ou l'on peut remonter à ces changements.’—*Cuvier*, ‘*Biographie Universelle*.’

In the Rue de Buffon is a house of XIII. c. Charming public walks with fine trees and pretty views lead up to the old tower and the church on the hill.

5½ k. from Montbard is the famous *Abbey of Fontenay*, founded in 1118 by Bernard and Milon de Montbard, two uncles of S. Bernard. It is now converted into a paper manufactory belonging to the family of Montgolfier of balloon celebrity, but



is well worth a visit for the sake of its noble and picturesque XII. c. cloister.

'Ce cloître n'est pas surmonté d'un premier étage, et se compose d'une galerie de rez-de-chaussée couverte par des voûtes d'arête romaines, et dont les travées, composées d'archivoltes plein cintre, sont divisées par une arcature jumelle portée sur des colonnes accouplées. Sa galerie sud, s'ouvrant sur le réfec-



CLOISTER OF FONTENAY.

toire, était accompagnée d'une belle salle ouverte, au milieu de laquelle était le lavoir ou *lavatoire*. Cette salle est détruite aujourd'hui, mais on en retrouve les amorces et de beaux fragments. Au centre s'élevait une colonne portant le sommier des quatre voûtes d'arête et autour de laquelle régnait la vasque du lavatoire.'—*Viollet le Duc*.

The church, built by Ebrard, Bishop of Norwich, was consecrated by Eugenius III., in 1147, and is a fine specimen of

transition-romanesque. Above the remarkable rectangular chapter-house is the dormitory.

[The road from Montbard to (31 k.) Châtillon-sur-Seine passes by (17 k.) *Coulmier-le-Sec*, which has a xiv. c. church, and 8 k. from which is *Villaine-en-Duesmois*, where the dukes of Burgundy had a summer palace, of which the ruins exist.]

257 k. *Les Laumes*. On the side of *Mont-Auxois*, about half-an-hour's walk from the station, is the village of *Alise-Sainte-Reine*, which owes its first name to the Gaulish Alesia, and its second to a Roman girl martyred 252 by the governor Olibrius, in his fury at her refusal to marry him. A procession in her honour still annually ascends the hill on her festival of Sept. 7. The village is divided into two parts—*S. Reine*, which contains a hospital, founded xvii. c. at instigation of S. Vincent de Paul, and rich in the right arm of the saint and in *la Fontaine Miraculeuse*, said to have risen where she was beheaded. The second half of the village is on the height once occupied by Alesia, the fortress which the Gauls considered impregnable, and where Vercingetorix, besieged by Caesar, made his last resistance, and was forced to surrender. The plateau of the hill is covered with cultivated fields, but surrounded on all sides by rocky buttresses interspersed with natural wood.

'Le mont d'Alésia présente un immense bastion naturel dominant un large horizon. La montagne est entourée de trois côtés par des vallées profondes, qui la séparent des hauteurs voisines ; du quatrième côté, une plaine d'une lieue de long s'étend entre les racines du mont et la rivière de Brenne ; deux autres petites rivières, la Loye et l'Ozerain, coulent à droite et à gauche de la montagne et vont se jeter à la Brenne. L'antique cité des Gaëls couvrait tout le plateau calcaire qui forme le

couronnement de la montagne. Le camp de Vercingétorix, fortifié d'un fossé et d'un mur en pierres sèches de six pieds de haut, occupait le versant oriental au-dessous de la ville et au-dessus du vallon de la Loye. César assit son camp du côté opposé, sur une hauteur en pente douce, séparée du mont d'Alésia par le vallon d'où sort l'Ozerain.

'César se garda bien d'attaquer à force ouverte : il conçut le gigantesque projet d'enfermer à la fois la ville et l'armée gauloise dans une circonvallation de onze milles, protégée par vingt-trois forts. Vercingétorix tente de rompre la chaîne dont son rival voulait l'enserrer. Il insinue au cœur de ses chevaliers le désir de venger leur honneur, et les jeta dans la plaine. On combattit, dit César, "avec une souveraine vigueur." Les escadrons romains ployèrent comme de coutume : les Germains arrivèrent à l'aide, suivis des légions. Le fatal ascendant des barbares du nord l'emporta de nouveau ! . . . La cavalerie gauloise fut rejetée en déroute jusqu'à son camp, avec une grande perte d'hommes et de chevaux.

'Vercingétorix ne vit plus d'espérance que dans un effort immense, universel, qui arracherait la Gaule à ses fondements pour la précipiter sur l'envahisseur. "Partez," dit-il aux chefs de sa cavalerie, "tandis que les passages ne sont pas encore fermés ; retournez chacun dans votre nation ; levez tout ce qui peut tenir une arme, et revenez nous délivrer, mes frères et moi. J'ai des vivres pour trente jours, pour un peu plus, avec une épargne rigoureuse. Nous vous attendons."

'La cavalerie passa, de nuit, entre les lignes inachevées de l'ennemi. Vercingétorix fit rentrer l'infanterie dans la ville.

'Ce cri de détresse, cette grande voix de la patrie expirante fut entendue. L'assemblée générale de la Gaule, à la hâte réunie, recula devant l'idée colossale d'une levée en masse universelle, qu'elle se sentit impuissante à diriger et à nourrir ; mais elle fixa des contingents à tous les peuples gaulois. Tous répondirent d'un seul élan, d'un seul cœur. . . .

'La lutte suprême s'engagea par un combat de cavalerie dans la plaine, arène où plongeaient, comme des degrés d'un prodigieux amphithéâtre, les regards des deux camps et de la ville. Les charges se succèdent sans interruption et sans avantage décisif, depuis midi jusqu'au coucher du soleil. . . .

Les Gaulois restèrent immobiles toute la journée du lendemain. Les généraux de la grande armée changèrent leur plan de l'attaque. Il y avait, au nord-est, entre la Loye et la Brienne, une colline que son vaste circuit n'avait pas permis d'enfermer dans les lignes romaines. César avait assis sur la pente douce de cette hauteur un petit camp de deux légions. Les chefs gaulois jugèrent que, s'ils réussissaient à enlever cette position, les Romains ne pourraient plus tenir dans l'étroit vallon de la Loye, entre cette colline et le mur d'Alésia. Vergasillaun, parent de Vercingétorix, se mit à la tête de quarante-cinq mille hommes, l'élite de l'armée, tourna la hauteur par une longue marche de nuit, s'embusqua sur le versant opposé, et tout à coup, vers midi, débouche au dessus du petit camp romain. En même temps, la cavalerie gauloise reparut dans la plaine, et le gros de l'infanterie se déploya en avant du camp gaulois.

'Vercingétorix sort de la ville, et un double assaut, furieux, désespéré commence. Des deux côtés, on sent que c'est l'heure suprême. L'attaque a été mieux combinée cette fois. César, planant d'un poste élevé sur tout le champ de bataille, voit de moment en moment ses formidables défenses entamées ou éludées. Les pièges et les fosses qui protègent les abords du petit camp disparaissent sous les monceaux de terre que jettent devant eux les bataillons de Vergasillaun. Les Gaulois touchent au rempart. Les deux légions s'épuisent; un renfort envoyé par César ne prolonge qu'à grand' peine la résistance. Pendant ce temps, Vercingétorix, au lieu d'assaillir les gigantesques fortifications de la plaine, se porte contre la partie des lignes où la nature escarpée du terrain n'a pas permis de si grands ouvrages. Son armée accable de traits les garnisons des tours romaines, se fraye un chemin à force de terre et de fascines, entame avec d'énormes faux le rempart et le revêtement. Deux corps de troupes fraîches, dépêchés à l'aide, sont impuissants contre l'élan des assaillants. La journée semble aux Gaulois.

'César accourt avec la réserve. Le combat se rétablit: Vercingétorix est repoussé. César sort des lignes avec quelque infanterie et toute sa cavalerie, et marche au secours du petit camp. Il arrive sur la hauteur au moment où, le fossé étant franchi et le rempart forcé, les deux légions du petit camp viennent de se masser en un seul corps avec les garnisons des



forts voisins pour se frayer une rétraite l'épée à la main. Les Romains se reportent en avant. Les Gaulois chargent : on s'aborde à l'arme blanche. Tout-à-coup, les Gaulois aperçoivent derrière eux une partie de la cavalerie ennemie qui à tourné la colline. La panique les saisit ; assaillis en tête et en queue, ils se rompent. Vergasillaun est pris avec soixante-quatorze enseignes. Le combat n'est plus qu'un massacre. À l'aspect des fuyards échappés au carnage, la masse de l'armée, déployée au loin sur les hauteurs, se débande dans toutes les directions et se dissout pour ne plus se réunir. Toute cette grande armée s'évanouit comme un rêve.

‘ Les défenseurs d'Alésia, délaissés sans retour, rentrèrent, aux approches de la nuit, dans l'antique cité qui avait été le berceau de la Gaule et qui allait en être le tombeau.

‘ Le héros, le patriote n'avait plus rien à faire ici-bas ; la patrie était perdue. L'homme pouvait encore quelque chose pour ses frères. Il pouvait peut-être encore les sauver de la mort et de la servitude personnelle. Cette pensée fut la dernière consolation de cette grande âme. Le lendemain, Vercingétorix convoqua ses compagnons, et s'offrit à eux pour qu'ils satisfissent aux Romains par sa mort, ou qu'ils le livrassent vivant. Il poussait le dévouement jusqu'à renoncer à mourir. On envoya savoir la volonté de César. Le proconsul ordonna qu'on livrât les chefs et les armes, et vint siéger sur un tribunal élevé entre les retranchements.

‘ Tout-à-coup, un cavalier de haute taille, couvert d'armes splendides, monté sur un cheval magnifiquement caparaçonné, arrive au galop droit au siège de César. Vercingétorix s'était paré comme un victime pour le sacrifice. Sa brusque apparition, son imposant aspect, excite un mouvement de surprise et presque d'effroi. Il fait tourner son cheval au cercle autour du tribunal de César, saute à terre, jette ses armes aux pieds du vainqueur, “ et se tait.”

‘ Devant la majesté d'une telle infortune, les durs soldats de Rome se sentaient émus ; César se montra au-dessous de sa prospérité ; il fut implacable envers l'homme qui lui avait fait perdre un seul jour, le nom d'invincible. Il éclata en reproches, “ sur son amitié trahie, sur ses bienfaits méprisés,” et livra le héros de la Gaule aux liens des licteurs. Vercingétorix, réservé

aux pompes outrageantes du triomphe, dut attendre six années entières que la hache du boureau vint enfin affranchir son âme et l'envoyer rejoindre ses pères dans "le cercle céleste."—*Martin, 'Hist. de France.'*

A gigantic statue by *Millet* (on a pedestal by *Viollet le Duc*) was erected to *Vincingetorix* on the *Mont-Auxois* in 1865.



CHÂTEAU OF BUSSY-RABUTIN.

An excursion should be made, either from *Les Laumes* or *Darcey* (about 6 k.) to the *Château of Bussy-Rabutin*. The road follows the railway for some distance, and then turns up a pretty wooded valley to the village of *Bussy-le-Grand*, the native place of *Junot*, *Duc d'Abrantes*. Beyond the village is a gateway on r., which seems to lead to some farm buildings. It does, in fact, form the entrance to a farm-yard, but is the only approach to the famous chateau, which lies very low, surrounded by a moat, and perfectly embosomed in verdure, especially grand old lime trees, which form an avenue opposite the principal front. So completely is it hidden, till you reach it, that it has the effect of a fairy-palace in the midst of the woods.

The original château was probably founded by Renaudin de Bussy in xii. c. It was rebuilt in xvii. c. on the plan of a vast parallelogram with towers at the angles. Those on the E. are connected with the principal buildings by wings with open arcades, of the time of Henri II. One of them contains the chapel. The main building is covered with rich arabesques sculptured in the yellow stone. The owner (Comte de Sarcus) seldom inhabits Bussy except in the height of summer; the damp of the moat drives him away; there is no sound but the song of the nightingales.

A terrible sense of damp pervades the interior of the château; it is like Mariana's moated grange. The rooms shown are very curious, and little altered from the time when they were built. One of those on the ground floor is decorated with paintings of famous châteaux—the old Versailles, Sceaux, etc.

The *Salle des Devises* is an interesting chamber, covered with paintings allegorical of the infidelity of Mme. de Monglat, the treacherous mistress for whom Roger de Rabutin, the famous Comte de Bussy, composed the *Histoire amoureuse des Gaules*, for which he was imprisoned for a year in the Bastille, and banished to his own property for seventeen years. He employed this period chiefly in the decoration of the château, in collecting the sixty-five portraits of famous warriors in the *Salon des Hommes de Guerre*, and in the adornment of *La Tour Dorée*, a room containing a number of portraits representing Louis XIV., his family and court, many of them by Mignard and Lebrun. The shutters of this tower are painted with cupids and the poetical devices which served to amuse the solitude of Rabutin.

'Dès qu'il est arrivé en Bourgogne, au sortir de la Bastille, il a fait venir de Dijon, et même de Paris, des artistes de tout genre, surtout des architectes et des peintres, et il s'est mis à embellir ses salons. Les salons, voilà ce qu'on aimait le mieux au xvii<sup>me</sup> siècle, ce qui rappelait ces moments les plus heureux de la vie, ceux qu'on avait passés dans des réunions charmantes; au milieu de personnes aimables et de gens d'esprit; en sorte que Le Nôtre, pour plaire à cette société mondaine, fit du parc de Versailles comme une reproduction du château lui-même. La manière dont Bussy a décoré sa maison nous fait bien voir

en quel état d'esprit il était alors et ce qui occupait toutes ses pensées ; il se nourrissait de souvenirs et de regrets, il ne songeait qu'à ce monde séduisant dont il était banni, il voulait à tout prix en avoir une image devant les yeux. Plusieurs pièces sont ornées d'emblèmes et d'allégories qui se rapportent presque toutes à sa maîtresse, la belle marquise de Montglas ; Bussy, qui l'accusait de l'avoir abandonné dans son malheur, qui la faisait représenter plus légère que le vent, plus changeante que la lune, plus fugitive que l'hirondelle, montre bien, par l'acharnement même qu'il met à la poursuivre, qu'il l'aimait toujours. Dans un de ses salons, il a réuni les portraits des grands capitaines de son temps et s'est mis sans façon en leur compagnie. Ailleurs il a fait peindre toutes les femmes qu'il a fréquentées, avec des inscriptions qui sont souvent des épigrammes. Il lui semblait sans doute qu'il n'avait pas tout à fait quitté Paris et Versailles, quand il retrouvait autour de lui toutes ces figures de connaissance qui lui rappelaient ses plus heureuses années. Il se faisait illusion en les regardant, et il oubliait un moment son exil.'

—*Gaston Boissier, 'Mme. de Sévigné.'*

The charming chambers inhabited by Madame de Sévigné during her visits to Rabutin, who was her cousin, and to whom many of her published letters are addressed, are full of contemporary portraits, amongst them those of Mesdames de Sévigné and de Grignan, and of the wife of Roger de Rabutin. Amongst the pictures is that of 'Isabelle Cécile, Marquise de Monglas, qui par la conjoncture de son inconstance a remis en honneur la matrone d'Éphèse.' In the *Chapel* are two pictures by Poussin. The gardens are attributed to Le Nôtre.

[For the branch line from Les Laumes to Avallon and Auxerre see ch. iii. Only 20 k. from Laumes on this line is the beautiful Sémur, which all artists and antiquaries should visit.]

265 k. *Darcey*.

[An excursion should be made hence to *Flavigny*. The hours of the omnibus are seldom likely to suit, but the farmer at Darcey will usually lend his cart—6 fr. to Flavigny ; 10 fr. to Flavigny



and Bussy-Rabutin. *Flavigny* (13 k.) is a town perched on a rock almost precipitous on three sides, and which has stood many sieges. It has two gates of XIV. c., one of them (close to the Dominican convent) of considerable interest.

‘Cette porte est flanquée de tours cylindriques percées de meurtrières à la base, à mi-hauteur et au sommet. Ces meurtrières, faites pour de très-petites bouches à feu, sont circulaires. La porte elle-même, ainsi que sa potence, est surmontée d’un mâchicoulis avec parapet, percé également de meurtrières circulaires. Cet ouvrage précède une porte de XIV<sup>e</sup> siècle, en partie démolie aujourd’hui, et qui était fermée par une herse et des vantaux.’—*Viollet le Duc*.

Many houses are of XIII. c., XV. c., and XVI. c. On the first floor of one of the former is an interesting example of a stone window bench, separated into two stalls by an arm projecting from the mullion. Others have curious examples of old corbelled water pipes under their roofs. In the centre of the town stands the parish church, portions of which date from the XIII. c. At the cross of the transept is a square tower of XVI. c., with a low spire. Above the aisles is a stone gallery, forming almost a second church, and continued across the first and last bays of the nave. At the latter it forms a *jubé*, with a lovely interlaced parapet and projecting stone pulpit, used as an ambon for the gospel.<sup>1</sup> From the gallery, fringed arches and pierced parapets open above the chapels of the nave. There are some ruins of another church of XIII. c., and of an abbey of VIII. c. The inmates of the great Dominican convent have been expelled by the Government, except those who were too infirm to move; in the courtyard is a statue of its most celebrated monk, the Père Lacordaire. A great Ursuline convent, being private property, is untouched.]

The railway passes l. the ruined castle of *Salmaise* before reaching—

<sup>1</sup> The name *jubé* comes from the fact that the deacon in demanding the benediction of the officiating priest, before beginning to read the gospel from hence, pronounced the word *jube*—command. See De Caumont.

279 k. *Verrey*. 5 k. is *Villy-en-Auxois*, with a very fine church, containing stained glass representing the genealogy of the Virgin.

288 k. *Blaisy-Bas*, with a castle ruined in the wars of



CHURCH OF FLAVIGNY.

religion. The tunnel of Blaisy, one of the most important and expensive railway works of France, is passed, and the ruined castle of *Malain* is seen crowning a rock on the r. : then several ravines ('combes') are crossed before reaching—

315 k. *Dijon* (Omnibus, 30 c. Hotels: *de la Cloche*—quite first-rate ; *de Bourgogne Goisset* ; *du Jura*—near the

station), the old capital of Burgundy, now chief town of the Département de la Côte d'Or.

The town takes its name from the *Castrum Divionense*, which Caesar established after the conquest of Gaul. The inhabitants were converted to Christianity by S. Bénigne, who suffered martyrdom here in 178. Constantine gave the city to S. Urbain, Bishop of Tours. In the xi. c. King Robert bought it, and made it the capital of the Duchy of Burgundy, which passed to his second son, Robert, first duke of the first royal race, of which there were twelve dukes, under whom the city was in constant peace and prosperity. On the death of the last of these, Burgundy was reunited to the crown under King Jean. Then it became the appanage of his fourth son, Philippe le Hardi, first duke of the second royal race, which only numbered four—Philippe le Hardi, Jean sans Peur, Philippe le Bon, and Charles le Téméraire, who was killed, in 1476, before the walls of Nancy. Louis XI., who now took possession of Burgundy, transported to Dijon the parliament, which had previously sat at Beaune and S. Laurent-lès-Châlon. He fortified the town, which was soon after besieged by a Swiss and German army. Later, François I., a prisoner at Madrid, ceded Burgundy to Charles V. as his ransom, but the States refused to accept a master who was not of their own choice, and the convention was never executed.

The most prosperous time of Dijon was the xviii. c., when, as capital of Burgundy, the States-General of the province met there every three years, and it was the seat of a parliament, of a bishopric created in 1731, and of a military governor; but the follies of the great Revolution destroyed many of the towers and churches, and mutilated

the other monuments of Dijon ; it has never since been of any importance ; it also suffered severely during the German invasion of 1870-71.

The following is the best course to be followed in a cursory visit to Dijon. Passing the corner of the Public Gardens, laid out by Le Nôtre, the Rue Docteur Maret leads r. to the *Cathedral* (formerly the abbey church) of *S. Bénigne*, which, having its origin in a shrine over the tomb of the martyred apostle of Burgundy, was rebuilt in vi. c., in ix. c., in 1016, in 1280, and has been much altered since. Of the church built in vi. c. by Grégoire, Bishop of Langres, we may still discover in the lower stage of the circular chapel, behind the apse, a building which was of three storeys, including the crypt.<sup>1</sup> In the xi. c. a much larger circular chapel was built by Abbot Guillaume for the benefit of pilgrims, and surrounded by two stages of galleries. It was united on the first floor to the church, which itself terminated in a chapel flanked by massive round towers, containing staircases leading up to the galleries above the shrine and down to the crypt. This precious architectural monument is now destroyed with the exception of the *Crypt*, which was the *martyrium*, or burial-place of *S. Bénigne*. In the crypt are preserved some fragments of the earlier chapel of vi. c., including a capital of interlaced monsters of Indian quaintness, and the crypt of xi. c. is itself a monument unique in France. The tomb of the saint was in a chapel at the entrance of the rotunda, and beyond the rotunda was a chapel of *S. John Baptist*, dating from the vi. c. All the crypt, the chapel, and rotunda were vaulted in ashlar work, except the centre of the rotunda,

<sup>1</sup> Don Plancher, *Hist. de Bourgogne*.



which was open, so that the processions of pilgrims, winding round the two storeys of galleries above, might look down into the shrine.

‘On peut considérer la crypte de S. Bénigne comme la plus vaste de cryptes connues. Ce monument si remarquable fut vendu pour le prix des matériaux, à la fin du dernier siècle, par la commune de Dijon. Les entrepreneurs jugèrent que les pierres de la crypte ne valaient pas les peines qu’il faudrait prendre pour les enlever, et cette crypte nous est restée à peu près entière.’—*Viollet le Duc*.

The only other relic of the church of XI. c. is the portal, altered, and adorned with a martyrdom of S. Étienne by Bouchardon: it is surmounted by an open gallery of gothic arches, and flanked by octangular towers. The low spire is of 1742. The balustrade of the transept chapels has the peculiarity of being decorated upon the flat surface, as is frequently the case in Burgundy, where the hardness of the stone made open-work difficult. In the interior is good stall work of XVIII. c. from the abbey of La Ferté-sur-Grosne. Near the W. end are tombs, with kneeling figures of the Sieur de la Benchère and his wife, 1631. Black marble slabs mark the spot to which the bodies of Philippe le Hardi and Jean sans Peur were removed from the Chartreuse in 1841. Against the wall of the S. aisle is, amongst others, the fine incised gravestone of Ladislav le Blanc, who was long a monk here, but was released from his vows by the anti-Pope Clement VII. of Avignon, that he might become king of Poland. Before he could take possession of the throne, however, Hedwige, daughter of Louis of Hungary, was preferred as queen by the electors, and Ladislav, dying miserably at Strasbourg in 1388, im-

plored to be buried in his old abbey, where an anniversary, called that of 'Le roi Lancelot' (corruption of Ladislas) was long celebrated. The poet Tabourot des Accords, 1590, is also buried here. The *Évêché*, formerly the abbot's palace, was rebuilt xviii. c.

Close to the S. side of the cathedral is the church of *S. Philibert*, now used as a barn, but a remarkable building of xii. c. It has a beautiful many-sided tower, with a crocketed stone spire.

The Rue S. Étienne leads E. to the Place S. Jean. The gothic church of *S. Jean*, which was consecrated in 1468, and where Bossuet was baptized, has a vaulted wooden roof. It is spoilt internally by polychrome, but contains the shrines of S. Urbain and S. Grégoire. At No. 10, Place S. Jean, the great Jacques Bénigne Bossuet was born, 1627. No. 4 was the hotel of the President, Charles de Brosses.

To the S.E. is the classical domed church of *S. Anne*, attached to an hospital of the name, built 1690—1708, and containing sculptures by Dubois and (in a side chapel) a good picture of the Communion of S. Catherine by Quantin.

The Rue de la Liberté leads to the *Hôtel de Ville* (xviii. c.), in the centre of the town, occupying the site of the palace of the dukes of Burgundy, of which nothing remains except the Tour de la Terrasse, 1419; the Tour de Brancion (called Tour de Bar, after René d'Anjou, Duc de Lorraine, was imprisoned there upon his defeat at Bulgnéville); the Salle des Gardes; and the square kitchen of 1445, with a vault supported by eight columns, and a great well of xv. c. with a lion issuing from the wall as the support of its pulley. Fourteen halls of the

hotel are now occupied by the *Musée*, open to the public on Sundays and holidays from 12 to 4, and on Thursdays from 12 to 3; daily to strangers. It contains a collection of far more interest than is usually found in provincial towns, arranged with great care and taste.

The *Salle des Gardes*, which was the banqueting hall of the dukes, retains its magnificent chimney-piece. In any other country but France, where it is necessary to protect everything of national importance from the fickle populace, one would regret to find here, and not over their resting-places at S. Bénigne, the splendid tombs of the dukes of Burgundy, formerly in the Chartreuse, an abbey founded by Philippe le Hardi, who employed all the best artists of the day in its decoration, and intended it for the burial-place of his family. He first made use of Jean de Menneville, a French sculptor, and when he died his work was continued under the Fleming Claus Sluter, who had hitherto worked under him. In 1393 Philippe gave this sculptor the title and position of 'valet de chambre,' and, in 1404, he received from the monastery, where a room was awarded him, a large sum for a Crucifixion. In the same year he obtained the contract for his greatest work, the tomb of his deceased lord, in which he was assisted by his nephew, Claux de Werne, who continued the work after his death.

'Raised above a socle and a base of black marble, is a mighty sarcophagus, the four sides of which are ornamented with delicate pointed arches, supported by slender columns. Executed in white marble, the architecture stands out magnificently upon the black marble background. A train of forty mourners, ecclesiastics, and courtiers, in small statuettes of white alabaster, are passing along the arcades. The clever artist has, with special

pleasure, expended his masterly skill on these figures. For, with the utmost variety of movement, he depicts the sorrow of each; some are covering themselves with their monkish cowls, which, with intentional simplicity, are arranged in broad parallel folds; others, as if in passionate excitement, are throwing back their drapery in rich folds; others, again, are expressing their grief by the wringing of their hands, or, as if overwhelmed by it, are allowing their heads to fall low on their breasts. The master seems to delight in solving the greatest difficulties, and is inexhaustible in ever new variations. The effect was originally still more heightened by tasteful gilding. In grand repose on the sarcophagus, with hands folded as if in prayer, lies the statue of Philip the Bold, in full state robes, wrapped in the ducal mantle, with its full folds.<sup>1</sup> The head and hands possess a truthfulness to nature, an individual expression, and a delicacy of workmanship, such as we meet with a decade later in the pictures of Hubert van Eyck.'—*Lübke*.

In 1442 the first preparations were made for the other great tomb of Jean sans Peur and Marguerite de Bourgogne. The contract was concluded in 1444, but the work was not finished till 1461. The sculptor was a Spaniard—Jehan de la Verta d'Aroca (*i.e.* of Arragon). Here, also, we see a train of mourners, angels kneeling at the heads with helmet and shield, and the statues are most noble and portrait-like, the hands almost painfully true to nature. Between the tombs is placed a copy of the statue of Anne de Bourgogne, Duchess of Bedford, 1452 (now at the Louvre), daughter of Jean sans Peur. Amongst the other works in the museum are several by Sluter's scholars, including the monument of Jacques Germain 'bourgoys de Clugny, jadiz père du reverend père en

<sup>1</sup> The list of the *garderobe* of Philippe le Hardi includes 'sa chaîne à porter reliques, sa gibecière pour donner à Dieu (aumonière) et la bonne ceinture de S. Louis, rachetée d'Érard de Roussillon.'



dieu Jehan Germain, Évêque de Chalon,' who died 1424. A beautiful and delicate xvi. c. tapestry, representing the siege of Dijon by the Swiss in 1513, formerly hung in S. Bénigne.



NOTRE DAME, DIJON.

A little beyond the Hôtel de Ville rises the great renaissance front of *S. Michel*, which was rebuilt xvi. c. by Hugues Sambin, a native of Dijon and pupil of Michelangelo. The interior is entirely gothic. In a chapel at the end of the r. aisle is the tomb of M. de la Marche, first president of the parliament of Burgundy.

Passing through the Rue Chaudronnerie, we may notice No. 28—*la Maison des Cariatides*, and at a corner of the Place des Ducs de Bourgogne a renaissance house with a good overhanging tourelle.

The beautiful and graceful church of *Notre Dame* was almost entirely built XIII. c., though it was not consecrated till 1334. Few churches are more deserving of study and admiration. The façade has two ranges of arches above the portals, supported on slender columns, and surmounted by broad friezes, being an evident imitation of the XI. c. and XII. c. churches of Pisa and Lucca. The clock, which surmounts these, is the work of the Fleming Jaquemart, and was carried off from Courtrai by Philippe le Hardi in 1383. The church is entered by a triple porch and three doorways (the central romanesque) leading to the three aisles of the nave. The triforium of the transepts is interrupted at the gable wall to give place to the great rose windows, which are very curious, having no stone compartments, but the whole of the tracery made out in lead. A second lower gallery runs between the columns which support the upper passage and in front of the windows on the first storey. The glass is XIII. c., XIV. c., and XV. c.: in the l. transept are remains of frescoes. A pretty detail of this church may be observed in the crest of the buttresses of the nave, decorated with animals and foliage.

In the Rue des Forges (close to Notre Dame) we should notice No. 38—*la Maison Milsand*, with a rich renaissance façade, and No. 35, the beautiful gothic *Maison Richard*. No one should fail to penetrate the narrow passage through this house to a tiny inner court

to see a renaissance front decorated by the most delicate reliefs and columns and a tourelle with winding staircase. The *Château*, begun in 1478 by Louis XI., finished 1512 by Louis XII., is now a barrack.

Glancing at a bronze statue of S. Bernard by Jouffroy, 1847, we should next go to visit the old Chartreuse, now *l'Asile des aliénés*, ten minutes' walk beyond the railway station. Begun by Philippe le Hardi, 1383, consecrated 1388, it was ravaged at the Revolution, and little now remains. We may, however, find the entrance gate of xiv. c., and the portal of the church where Philippe and his wife, Marguerite de Flandre—evidently portraits—are seen kneeling, commended by the patron saints behind them to the Virgin on the central pillar. The octagonal tower of xiv. c. contains the staircase by which the dukes ascended to their oratory. But the most important relic is the well-head, formerly in the centre of the great cloister, called *Puits de Moïse* or *Puits des Prophètes*, the masterpiece of Claux Sluter.

‘It is a work of large dimensions, formed of stone, and richly ornamented with gold and colouring. Six life-size figures of the prophets are introduced round it in strong relief, evidencing a power of characterization far beyond anything that the art of the time had yet attained. David turns energetically to Isaiah, and points out a passage in his scroll; the one addressed, old, and perhaps rather deaf, laboriously endeavours to understand him. In the aged Zacharias the feebleness of old age is admirably expressed. Jeremiah has an especially portrait-like and wise character of head. David appears regal, and with rich luxuriance of hair; Moses, grand and commanding, with his long beard, a genuine commander of the Lord's host. The statues are all rather short and confined, and their fulness is increased by the drapery, which falls in thick folds; yet they have a peculiar

power and majesty, producing all the more effect from their significant characterization. The heads, on the whole, are grandly treated, yet rendered true to nature by touches of the smallest detail. The hands especially are executed with most masterly power, their veins, muscles, and even the finest wrinkles in the skin being visible. Though the quaint tendency of the period has frequently led the artist into a genre style; though Jeremiah with his spectacles and cap, Isaiah with his girdle and pockets, Zachariah with his ink-bottle, fur-trimmed coat, and high cap, are thorough portrait-figures of the time, we cannot be surprised. Most peculiar is the expression of the angels, who, placed with outspread wings, in the wide upper concave, express their joy and sorrow in the most varied manner. One wipes the tears from his eyes; another, full of resignation, crosses his hands on his breast; a third raises both his arms in deprecation; whilst the fourth wrings his hands in despair,—their expression of pain referring to the figure of Christ on the cross, which formerly stood on the fountain.'—*Lübke*.

On a vine-clad hill about 3 k. N. of Dijon is the picturesque village of *Fontaine-lès-Dijon*, with a venerable-looking xiv. c. church. Close by are the remains of the château of Tesselin-le-Roux, where his son, S. Bernard, was born, the chamber where the event occurred having been turned into a chapel by Louis XIII. and Anne of Austria. Fontaine is a lovely spot, well worth visiting.

'Tesselin, the father of Bernard, was a man of great bravery and unimpeachable honour and justice; his mother, Alith, likewise of high birth, a model of devotion and charity. Bernard was the third of six brothers; he had one sister. The mother, who had secretly vowed all her children to God, took the chief part in their early education, especially in that of Bernard, a simple and studious, a thoughtful and gentle youth, yet even in childhood of strong will and visionary imagination. The mother's death confirmed the influence of her life. Having long practised secretly the severest monastic discipline, she breathed out her spirit amid the psalms of the clergy around her bed; the last movement of her lips was praise to God.



'The world was open to the youth of high birth, beautiful person, graceful manners, and irresistible influence. The Court would at once have welcomed a young knight, so endowed, with her highest honours; the Church would have trained a noble disciple so richly gifted for her most powerful bishoprics or her wealthiest abbeys. He closed his eyes upon the world, on the worldly Church, with stern determination. He became at once



FONTAINE-LÈS-DIJON.

the master of his passions. His eyes had dwelt too long and too curiously on a beautiful female; he plunged to the neck in a pool of cold water. His chastity underwent, but untainted, severe trials. Yet he resolved to abandon this incorrigible world altogether. He inquired for the poorest, the most austere of monasteries. It was that of Citeaux. He arrived at the gates, but not alone. Already his irresistible influence had drawn around him thirty followers, all equally resolute in the renunciation of secular life, in submission to the most vigorous discipline.

But this was not all ; his mother's vow must be fulfilled. One after the other the strange and irresistible force of his character enthralled his brothers, and at length his sister. Two of the brothers with an uncle followed his steps at once ; the elder, Guido, was married ; his wife refused to yield up her claims on her husband's love. A seasonable illness enforced her submission ; she, too, retired to a convent. A wound in the side, prophesied, it was said, by Bernard, brought another, a gallant warrior, as a heart-stricken penitent into his company. When they all left the castle of their father, where they had already formed a complete monastic brotherhood, Guido, the elder, addressed Nivard, the youngest son, " To you remains the whole patrimony of our house." " Earth to me, and heaven to you, that is no fair portion," said the boy. He lingered a short time with his aged father, and then joined the rest. Even the father died a monk of Clairvaux in the arms of Bernard.'—*Milman, 'Hist. of Latin Christianity.'*

The excellent Hôtel de la Cloche at Dijon is a capital centre for excursions. Antiquarians will visit Flavigny ; historians, Bussy-Rabutin ; archeologists, Alesia ; architects, Issômes ; but no one should fail to see Beaune, which infinitely repays a visit, not only as a charming example of a picturesque provincial town, but from the deep architectural interest of its unique hospital, and the beauty of its glorious Van Eyck.

Philip Thicknesse, who wrote his travels in France in 1775, saw a family of nine, who had lived by highway plunder, hanging near Dijon—a man, his wife, and seven children.

[A post road (there is a railway) of 85 k. leads from Dijon to Châtillon-sur-Seine, passing (28 k.) *S. Seine l'Abbaye*, named from a famous Benedictine abbey, founded 531 by S. Seine, son of the Comte de Mémont. It was fortified against the English in the xiv. c., and in the time of Louis XIV. the position of its

abbot became one of the great sinecure offices most longed for by courtiers. The abbots' palace, where Louis XIV. twice slept, is now a hydropathic establishment. The church, rebuilt after a fire in 1255, was finished in xv. c. There is a singularity in the way in which the triforium is blended with the upper tier of windows. The choir preserves its curious clôture of heavy masonry and is covered, externally, with paintings of the beginning of xvi. c. relating to the history of S. Seine.

'Le grand-autel est sans rétable. Il y a seulement un gradin et six chandeliers dessus. Au-dessus est un crucifix haut de plus de huit pieds, au-dessous duquel est la suspension du saint sacrement dans le ciboire : et aux deux côtés de l'autel il y a quatre colonnes de cuivre et quatre anges de cuivre avec des chandeliers et des cierges et des grands rideaux.'—*'Voyages liturgiques de France.'*

There are beautiful remains of a gothic rood-loft and nine gravestones of abbots of xiii. c., xiv. c., and xv. c.

$3\frac{1}{2}$  k. before reaching *Chanceaux* (37 k. from Dijon) on the l. is the farm of *Vergerots*. Here, in a little wooded valley, is the *Source of the Seine*, where the remains of a Gallo-Roman temple were discovered in 1836. A grotto with the statue of a nymph by Jouffroy was erected here by the city of Paris in 1867.

Another route to Châtillon goes by (10 k.) *Messigny*, with a xiv. c. church containing tombs of the family of Saulx de Vantoux ; and (50 k.) *S. Broingt-lès-Roches*, 12 k. to the l. of which is *Aignay-le-Duc*, a favourite residence of the dukes of Burgundy of the first race.]

[A railway leads from Dijon to (88 k.) Langres (see *North-Eastern France*, ch. vii.), passing—

33 k. *Is-sur-Tille*, which has a xiv. c. church and xvi. c. houses. 4 k. E. is the village of *Til-Châtel*, with a church of xi. c. and xii. c., containing a great deal of good sculpture and the tomb of S. Honoré, supported by angels. Several houses are xiv. c., xv. c., and xvi. c.

21 k. from Is-sur-Tille, in the direction of Châtillon, is *Grancy-le-Château*, with a fine château of early xviii. c., decorated

by xv. c. chimney-pieces from an earlier building, of which the chapel (xiii. c., xiv. c., and xv. c.) remains, and contains good xiv. c. stallwork and xiii. c. statues of the Virgin and S. John.

54 k. *Vaux-sous-Aubigny*. 2 k. S.E. is the beautiful little church of *Issômes*, a very remarkable building of the end of xii. c.



CHURCH OF ISSÔMES.

The principal façade has a portal of three romanesque arches, supported on low columns with sculptured capitals, and surrounded by a triple window. There are no transepts. At the meeting of nave and choir rises the very curious tower, crowned by an octagonal spire, at the base of which rise four gables, and at the angles four triangular erections, supported by little pillars,



and forming platforms at the top intended for the reception of four statuettes of angels, now lost. The neighbouring church of *Montsaugéon* is of XI. c. with stall work and glass of XVI. c.]

[A road leads from Dijon to (70 k.) Sémur by Vitteaux, passing (20 k.) *Pont-de-Pany*, whence is an hour's ascent on foot to the *Château de Montculot* or *d'Urcy*, described by Lamartine.

' Il était situé dans ce labyrinthe de montagnes noires, de gorges sombres et de monotones forêts qui forment le plateau le plus élevé de la Bourgogne, entre Sémur et Dijon, à quatre ou cinq lieues de toute ville ; pays âpre, sauvage ; air de feu, ciel de neiges ; Sibérie française, triste comme le Nord ; région des pasteurs et des bûcherons, où l'on marche des heures sans voir autre chose qu'un chêne pareil à un chêne, et un troupeau pareil à un troupeau. Les lignes de l'horizon, arrêtées par la noirceur des bois qui les couvrent, droites et roides comme des remparts tirés au cordeau, se dessinent toutes semblables aussi sur le ciel pâle et gris.

' Sur un plateau étroit, au confluent de ces gorges, s'élève le château d'Urcy, véritable site d'abbaye. On n'apercevait qu'à travers les branches des grands chênes sa façade immense, dentelée d'élégantes balustrades, ses quinze fenêtres à plain cintre, et leurs balcons de fer aux armoiries dorées, qui attestent la plus pure architecture italienne, dépaycée au milieu de cette contrée des druides. Ce château, disent les paysans des environs, a été bâti pour les étoiles, car il n'y a qu'elles qui puissent le voir. . . . Des vastes jardins, découpés à coups de hache sur les bois, l'environnent. Ces jardins ne sont pas et ne peuvent pas être nivelés ; ils suivent les ondulations du plateau, ici ouverts, là fermés par les montagnes, les plaines, les gorges profondément encaissés sous les rochers ; défrichements partiels noyés dans les feuillages des collines et des mamelons. Quatorze sources, rare suintement de ces flancs de roc, y ont été recueillies dans de longs conduits souterrains, qui les répandent çà et là en conques murmurantes, en vasques de pierre, en dauphins à barbe de mousse verte, en pièces d'eau rondes, ovales, carrées, de toutes formes et de toutes grandeurs. L'une d'elles porte bateau. La fontaine qui s'y verse a grosses bouillons éternels s'appelle la *fontaine de Foyard*, du nom d'un hêtre séculaire qui ombrage les

sources et qui couvre un demi-arpent de ses branches et de sa nuit.'—' *Nouvelles Confidences*.'

For the rest of this route see ch. iii.]

[A road leads W. from Dijon to (80 k.) Saulieu, by—

42½ k. *Vandenesse-le-Château*, from which an excursion may be made to the château of *Châteauneuf*, built 1457-94 by Philippe Pot, ambassador from Philippe le Bon to England.

50 k. *Pouilly-en-Montagne*, where the church has a fine XVI. c. S. Sépulcre and stone pulpit.

56 k. *Chailly*, with a XVI. c. château and XV. c. cross, and church of XII. c., XIV. c., and XVI. c.

70 k. *Thoisyl-la-Berchère*, overlooked by an ancient château parts of which date from the XI. c. The 'Chambre du Roi' is preserved, where Henri IV. frequently stayed.

64 k. *Mélin*, whence it is 2½ k. to *Mont-S.-Jean*, which has a ruined castle of XII. c. and XIV. c., a chapel of XII. c. and XV. c., and houses of XV. c. and XVI. c.]

Leaving Dijon, the railway passes between chains of low hills, the value of whose vineyards has given the name of *Côte d'Or* to the department.

326 k. *Gevrey-Chambertin*. In the *Combe de la Boissière* is a ruined XIV. c. château and a church of the same date, with a baptistery of XVI. c. The produce of the hill of *Chambertin* (Champ Bertin) is well known. † In the neighbouring village of *Fixin* is the statue of Napoléon I. by Rude, erected by "Noisot, Grenadier de l'Île d'Elbe."

332 k. *Vougeot*, celebrated for the produce of the *Clos-Vougeot*, planted by the monks of Cîteaux in XII. c. The *Château*, 1531, has a beautiful renaissance staircase and chimney-pieces.

337 k. *Nuits* (Hotel: *de la Croix-Blanche*), an old town, the scene of a bloody combat with the Germans in 1870, but the most southern point reached by the enemy. The

fine church of *S. Symphorien* is XIII. c. The *Hôpital S. Laurent* was founded XIV. c.

It is 12 k. from Nuits to the remains of the famous *Abbey of Citeaux*, founded by Robert de Molesme in 1098, in a dismal situation which was attractive to the monastic spirit. An Englishman, Stephen Harding, was one of its seven first



NUITS.

monks, and was abbot in 1113, when S. Bernard assumed the cowl here.

‘ Bernard montra dès l’adolescence un esprit exalté et contemplatif, tendre et violent, en même temps qu’une horreur des voluptés charnelles, qui lui faisait employer, pour vaincre ses sens, les moyens les plus acerbés et les plus étranges. Tourmenté par le problème de la vie, il se demandait souvent : “ Bernard, qu’as-tu venu faire ici-bas ? ” (*Bernarde, ad quid venisti?*). Il trouva bientôt la réponse. Il se fit moine à vingt-deux ans dans le sévère couvent de Citeaux, entraînant avec lui dans le mona-

chisme son oncle, ses six frères, son père, sa soeur, ses amis. La vie chrétienne n'existait pas pour lui hors du célibat et de la retraite monastique ; il eût changé, s'il eût pu, la terre en un couvent universel, et forcé, pour ainsi dire, Dieu à donner le signal de la fin du monde. Il exerçait sur les âmes une attraction si terrible, il inspirait à ses auditeurs un tel dégoût des choses temporelles, que ceux qui l'entendaient quittaient tout pour s'ensevelir dans les monastères. Les mères cachaient leurs enfants, les femmes retenaient leurs maris, les amis ammenaient au loin leurs amis, de peur qu'il n'allassent ouïr Bernard. Un mélange de charme et de terreur indicible environnait cet homme nerveux et pâle, au regard profond, qui ne mangeait ni ne dormait ; qui, absorbé dans une perpétuelle extase, voyait sans voir, entendait sans entendre, goûtait sans savourer ; qui, dans son faible corps, semblait animé d'une force surnaturelle, et qui, racontait-on, guérissait les malades par l'imposition des mains.'—*Henri Martin, 'Hist. de France.'*

'Notwithstanding its fame, the Cistercian monastery up to this time had been content with a few unincreasing votaries. Warlike and turbulent Burgundy furnished only here and there some conscience-stricken disciple to its dreary cells. The accession of the noble Bernard, of his kindred and followers, raised at once the popularity and crowded the dormitories of this solitude. But Bernard himself dwelt in subjection, in solitude, in study. He was alone, except when on his knees with the rest of the choir ; the forest oaks and beeches were his beloved companions ; he diligently read the sacred scriptures ; he strove to work out his own conception of perfect and angelic religion. He attained a height of abstraction from earthly things which might have been envied by an Indian Yogue. He had so absolutely withdrawn his senses from communion with the world that they seemed dead to all outward impressions : his eyes did not tell him whether his chamber was ceiled or not, whether it had one window or three. Of the scanty food which he took rather to avert death than to sustain life, his unconscious taste had lost all perception whether it was nauseous or wholesome. Yet Bernard thought himself but in his novitiate ; others might have attained, he had but begun, his sanctification. He laboured



with the hardest labourers, discharged the most menial offices, was everybody's slave; the more degrading the office the more acceptable to Bernard.'—*Milman, 'History of Latin Christianity.'*

When the abbey of Citeaux became over-crowded, Bernard was sent forth with twelve other monks, typifying the twelve Apostles, to found another monastery, and he founded Clairvaux. After this, in the space of twenty-five years, no less than 60,000



CITEAUX.

monks issued from Citeaux to be scattered over the world; 1,800 monasteries of men and 1,400 of women depended on Citeaux, which gave four popes to the Church—Eugenius III., Gregory VIII., Celestine IV., and Benedict XII.—and whose ruler was known as 'l'Abbé des Abbés.'

The plan of the abbey of Citeaux was of the same character as that of Clairvaux, and was of gigantic size. Constantly pillaged in xvi. c., it was suppressed in 1790, and almost entirely destroyed. Formerly, when a stranger arrived and knocked at

the gate, the usage was for the porter to exclaim 'Deo gratias,' as to render thanks for his arrival. On opening, he said, 'Benedicite,' and knelt before the new comer, and then summoned the abbot. Whatever his occupations, the abbot left them to receive the guest whom Heaven had sent him, and after having prostrated at his feet, conducted him first to the oratory at the gate for a short prayer, after which he handed him over to the brother hospitaller, who was charged to look after his comfort, and provide for his entertainment, and that of his horse if he arrived on horseback. Odo, Duke of Burgundy, dying in Palestine, desired that his body should rest in the church at Citeaux, which afterwards became a favourite burial place with his successors. The monastic buildings were stately, but of great simplicity : even stained windows were forbidden (1134), lest the brilliant subjects they portrayed might distract the attention of the monks. Nothing now remains except the small building shown in the accompanying woodcut, and the situation is so flat and featureless, that Citeaux is scarcely worth a visit. There is now a *Colonie agricole pénitentiaire* there.

17 k. S. of Citeaux, in the direction of S. Amour, is *Seurre*, 6 k. from which is *Pagny-le-Château*, with a ruined château and xv. c. chapel, built by one of the Chabot family, very rich in renaissance decoration, and with a *jubé* erected by Admiral Chabot, in 1538, and a magnificent wooden *rétable* given in 1450 by Jeanne de Vienne, who also caused the tomb of her great uncle, Jean à la Longue Barbe (1435) to be placed here. The tomb of Jean de Longwy and Jeanne de Vienne was erected by their children c. 1464, and bears their statues. 1 k. N.W. is *Pagny-la-Ville*, with a beautiful xv. c. cross, and a church of xiii. c., xiv. c., and xv. c.]

352 k. *Beaune* (Omnibus, 40 c. Hotels : *de France ; de la Poste ; du Chevreuil*), a pleasant and pretty old town, once of considerable importance, but ruined by the revocation of the Edict of Nantes. Its arms, like those of Dijon, appropriately bear vine branches. The collegiate church of *Notre Dame* was begun in xii. c., but is of many styles. Its great

tower, which presents a primitive storey, possessing all the features of Burgundian and romanesque, and which only shows the gothic influence in its second storey ; its unfinished W. towers, and its stately and picturesque porch, with three arches in front and two at the sides, are XIII. c. On the S. of the nave is a doorway with the lintel, forming the cir-



HOSPITAL OF BEAUNE—EXTERIOR.

cular tympanum, covered with sculpture. The W. doorways themselves deserve study. In its vaulting and ornamentation the church is almost a copy of the Cathedral of Autun. The upper part of the choir was rebuilt XIV. c. : the irregular chapels opening from the aisles of the nave are XV. c., except the first chapel S., which is renaissance. The Revolution has destroyed much beautiful sculpture. Some good

glass remains, and beautiful iron-work outside the windows of the r. aisle. In the presbytery garden is a remarkable doorway of xii. c. The picturesque gable of the chapter-house is xiii. c.

The *Hospital*, which is the most interesting building of



HOSPITAL OF BEAUNE—COURTYARD.

the kind in France, was founded, 1443, by Nicolas Rolin, Chancellor of Burgundy, and continued, after his death, by his wife, Guicône de Salins,—which explains the motto *seule*, often repeated in the ornamentation. It has been, from its foundation, in the hands of the *Soeurs du S. Esprit*, whose picturesque dress adds to the antique charm of the court,



with its beautiful surrounding buildings, its marvellous girandoles, its brilliant flowers and orange-trees, its cross and well.

'Cet établissement est à peu près tel que le xv<sup>e</sup> siècle nous l'a laissé, bien qu'il soit construit, en grande partie, en bois. Il se compose de trois corps de logis élevés autour d'une cour quadrangulaire. Dans le bâtiment qui donne sur la rue est placée la grande salle, avec sa chapelle à l'extrémité, la porterie et quelques pièces voûtées destinées aux provisions. Les deux autres corps de logis, devant lesquels passe une galerie à deux étages, contiennent le noviciat des soeurs, trois salles, la cuisine et la pharmacie. De grands gables de charpente, vitrés, donnant du jour dans les salles par-dessus les galeries du dehors, tandis que l'aération se fait par les galeries mêmes et par les faces opposées. La cour de cet établissement, d'un aspect riant, bien proportionnée, contenant encore son puits du xv<sup>e</sup> siècle, son lavoir et sa chaire, donnerait presque envie de tomber malade à Beaune. La porte sur la rue est protégée par un auvent de charpente couvert d'ardoise. Les anciennes girouettes des combles, peintes aux armes de Nicolas Rollin, sont carrées, avec un seul contre-pois, et décorées aux angles extrêmes de feuilles découpées.'—*Viollet le Duc*.

The *Salle S. Hugues* is decorated with mural paintings of 1682. The *Salle des Malades* is a noble hall, with a stately roof, and is surrounded by ancient box beds, cheerfully draped with red and white. The end of the hall is disposed as a chapel, so that the sick can be present at a service, or receive teaching without leaving their beds; mass here is a very touching sight. The *Musée* has a very curious collection of carved oak nun-chests (each nun formerly having one). But the great curiosity of the place is the large and splendid picture attributed to *Van Eyck* (Jean de Bruges) representing the Last Judgment, presented

to the hospital by the founder. The heads are marvellous in character. The (very decent) nudity of some of the figures was at one time either draped in brown breeches or covered with the flames of hell by the nuns, but the picture has now been well restored. On the back are portraits of the Chancellor Rolin and his son Jean, Bishop of Autun, with their patron saints—Anthony and Sebastian. Eugenius IV. and Philippe le Bon are also represented.

The church of *S. Nicolas* is XIV. c., with a romanesque portal. In the Faubourg *S. Jacques* is the ancient *Chapelle des Templiers*, where Jacques de Molay was admitted to the Order. The square *Belfry* of the Hôtel de Ville, of XV. c. (now destroyed), is of 1403. Near this is a statue of the geometrician Gaspard Monge (born at Beaune, 1746) by Rude. The pleasant promenade of the *Rempart des Dames* owes its name to the Abbaye des Dames du Lieu-Dieu. The avenues of pink chestnuts are lovely in spring. The vineyards of Beaune are among the most important in Burgundy.

[An excursion may be made to (5 k. N.W.) *Savigny-sous-Beaune*, a pretty wooded valley, with a church-spire of XV. c. and a château built XIV. c., and rebuilt 1672, in which the Duchesse du Maine, daughter-in-law of Louis XIV., passed part of her exile in Burgundy. 4 k. further is the beautiful fountain called *Fontaine-Froide*, of which she said, 'Que ne l'ai-je à Sceaux!' Further in the valley (8 k. from Savigny) are ruins of the *Abbaye de S. Marguerite*, XII. c. and XV. c.]

367 k. *Chagny*. The church has a picturesque tower of the XII. c. The nave, flanked by side-aisles, is higher than the choir, which served as chapel to the castle.

[An excursion may be made W. to (11 k.) *La Rochepot*, with

the imposing ruins of a castle, built XIII. c., by Alexandre de Bourgogne, Prince de Morée, and ruined at the Revolution; and (21 k.) *Cussy-la-Colonne*—where, in the hollow called *Précheraine*, 1 k. from the village, a curious Roman column still stands, octagonal, 10 mèt. high, on a pedestal adorned with eight figures of gods and goddesses, rudely sculptured in relief.]

[E. of Chagny are (2 k.) *Créteil*, with a beautiful ancient cross; (3 k.) *Chaudenay*, with church of 1310, and (14 k.) *S. Loup-de-la-Salle*, with fine XIV. c. church.]

[A railway branches off W. from Chagny to Autun—an excursion which is well worth while. The line passes—

9 k. *Paris l'Hôpital*, named from a hospice founded XII. c. by knights of S. John of Jerusalem. The village of Créot (2 k. W.) is situated between *Mont de Rome-Château* and *Mont-de-Rème*, supposed to have been dedicated to Romulus and Remus under the Romans.

14 k. *Nolay*. About one hour's walk from hence is the pretty valley of *Vaux Chignon* or *de la Tournée*, watered by the little river Cusanne. Alexandre Dumas<sup>1</sup> has given a picturesque description of this spot.

27 k. *Épinac*, famous for its coal, of which it produces 150,000 tons annually, has a fine XIV. c. château, which belonged to Cardinal Rollin.

34 k. *S. Léger-Sully*. The fine château of Sully is of the end of XVI. c. It surrounds a court with its main buildings, at the angles of which are four square towers; in the middle of the S. façade is a fifth tower, containing the chapel. The château, which formerly belonged to the families of Rabutin and Montaigne, is now the property of M. de Mac-Mahon. The Maréchal de Mac-Mahon was born here in 1808.

49 k. *Autun* (Hotels: *S. Louis; de la Poste; de la Cloche*). occupies the site of Augustodunum, founded after the ruin of the Gaulish Bibracte, and one of the most flourishing Roman cities in Gaul.

'Lorsqu'on voit ce qui reste d'Autun, et qu'on se rappelle les catastrophes épouvantables que cette ville a éprouvées, l'imagina-

<sup>1</sup> *Impressions de Voyage*, 1<sup>re</sup> série, 1.

tion a peine à se figurer ce qu'elle devait être au temps de sa splendeur. À la fin du III<sup>e</sup> siècle, et lors de la révolte des Bagaudes, elle fut saccagée et brûlée ; ses temples et ses édifices publics furent renversés pour la plupart. Attila poursuivit l'oeuvre de dévastation, lorsqu'il s'en empara au milieu du V<sup>e</sup> siècle ; puis les Bourguignons et les Huns se disputèrent ses ruines ; enfin Rollon et ses Normands trouvèrent encore quelque



PORT D'ARROUX, AUTUN.

chose à détruire, et leur passage fut le dernier et le plus terrible coup porté à cette ville malheureuse.—*Prosper Mérimée.*

The magnificent Roman remains which still exist include—

The *Porte d'Arroux* (Porta Senonica), composed of two great arches for carriages, with two smaller arches for foot passengers at the sides. The entablature above supported an arcade of ten arches, of which seven still exist, separated by Corinthian pilasters of delicate execution.

The *Porte S. André* (Porta Lingnensis), supposed not to



be earlier than v. c., but much of the same character as the Porte d'Arroux, with ionic pilasters instead of corinthian. The external façade is flanked by towers, one of which has been converted into a church of S. André.

'La porte S. André est une des plus complètes de toutes celles que nous possédons en France, et se rapproche de l'époque du moyen âge. Elle est ailleurs entièrement tracée sur le modèle antique, et possède deux voies, deux issues pour les piétons, deux tours, servant de postes militaires, avec leurs deux escaliers montant aux étages supérieurs.'—*Viollet le Duc*.

There is no reason in the name given to the building outside the Porte d'Arroux, known as the *Temple of Janus*, and which was only an external fortification to that gate. It consists of thick low walls, pierced by two courses of openings, probably of the Lower Empire. A few years ago some remains of a Temple of Pluto were visible at a short distance from this, but nothing now exists. In the museum of M. Jovet is a fine mosaic representing the combat of Bellerophon and the Chimaera. The *Roman Theatre* (at the end of the Promenade des Marbres, and first turn to l.) retains little more than its outline in the turf.

The *Amphitheatre*, now destroyed and crossed by the Châlons road, was the largest building of the kind after the Coliseum.

The square *Tour de Minerve* is united to the convent of S. Andoche. The *Tour d'Apollon* is little more than a piece of wall in the court of a private house facing the Promenade des Marbres. Considerable remains of ancient *Aqueducts* have been discovered.

The beautiful little *Cathedral of S. Lazare*, or *S. Ladre*, originally a chapel to the castle of the dukes of Burgundy, was founded 1060, and consecrated by Innocent II. in 1132. In 1465 Cardinal Rolin added its central tower.

'La cathédrale d'Autun était à peine achevée, vers 1140, qu'on élevait un porche vaste devant sa façade principale. Ce porche couvre un emmarchement comprenant la largeur de la nef et des collatéraux. Il est surmonté de deux tours et d'une salle au premier étage, couverte jadis par une charpente apparente. Clos latéralement, le porche de S. Lazare s'ouvre devant l'entrée centrale de l'église par un énorme berceau qui enveloppe l'archivolte

de la porte. Cette disposition est d'un effet grandiose, d'autant plus que les linteaux et le tympan de cette porte sont couverts de figures sculptées d'un style étrange, énergique, et d'une exécution remarquable.'—*Viollet le Duc*.

A flight of steps leads to the W. front flanked by two towers, of which that on r. has a lofty stone spire. At the end of the N. transept is a good romanesque doorway, but the chief portal is important from its representation of the Last Judgment, in which a colossal angel introduces the spirits of the blessed through a window into a palace representing Paradise.

'Foremost amongst Burgundian churches is the cathedral of Autun, with its grand but wild compositions in the arched space surmounting the principal portal (c. 1150). The space is filled with the representation of the Last Judgment, into which are introduced several wild appalling colossal devils, who seize and torment the figures of the condemned. S. Michael, also exaggerated in size, is weighing a soul and protecting it against the combined efforts of two demons who are endeavouring to press down the other side of the beam of the scales. Art rises in these scenes to a height of startling grandeur, which, after the fashion of the age, appears in the introduction of fantastic demon forms. The master who executed this work is Gislebertus.'—*Lübke*.

In the interior, the nave, of seven bays, with side aisles, has a beautiful triforium. The vaulting is gothic. The transepts are very short, the choir without an ambulatory. The beautiful side chapels of the nave are flamboyant-gothic of xv. c.; in that which serves as the baptistery is a striking relief of Christ and the Magdalen. On the capitals on r. of the nave, near the entrance, are sculptures of the wolf and stork, and Androcles and the lion.

'La nef offre le mélange de l'ogive et du plain cintre; mais ce qui mérite d'être noté, c'est l'emploi qu'on a fait de l'ogive, seulement dans les parties qui avaient besoin d'une grande solidité. Ainsi, les voûtes et les arcades qui unissent les piliers, sont ogivales, tandis que les fenêtres de la nef sont cintrées. On a reconnu, je crois, de bonne heure, la solidité de l'ogive, et c'est

cette propriété qui d'abord l'a fait adopter dans l'architecture religieuse.'—*Prosper Mérimée*.

Behind the high-altar, a magnificent reliquary contains the relics of S. Lazare. In the treasury is an eastern pall of great magnificence. The r. transept contains the famous picture by *Ingres*, representing the martyrdom of the local saint Symphorien.

'Symphorianus, fils d'un décurion, membre du sénat municipal, à Autun, fut condamné à mort pour avoir refusé dédaigneusement de saluer la statue de Cybèle qu'on promenait par les rues sur un char, le jour de la fête de cette "mère des dieux." Tandis qu'on le menait hors de la ville pour l'exécuter, sa mère lui criait du haut des murailles: "Mon fils, mon fils Symphorianus, souviens-toi du Dieu vivant; élève ton cœur en haut, et regarde celui qui règne dans le ciel! On ne t'ôte pas aujourd'hui la vie; on te la change en une meilleure!" Les mères chrétiennes renouvelaient les effrayantes vertus des mères de Lacédémone.'—*Henri Martin, 'Hist. de France.'*

The *Fontaine S. Lazare* is a very graceful work of the Renaissance.

The church of *S. Pantaléon* (rebuilt) belonged to the Abbaye de S. Martin, founded by Brunehaut, 602, on the spot where the Bishop of Tours cut down a beech which had become an object of pagan worship. Brunehaut was buried in the chapel of the monastery, destroyed 1793. The church of *S. Pierre l'Étrier* formerly contained the tombs of S. Amateur, first bishop of Autun, and S. Cassien, also bishop, which were in existence in 1718. Only the ruins remain of the *Priory of S. Symphorien*, built 421, to contain the remains of the missionary-martyr of Autun. The *Évêché* is the old palace of the dukes of Burgundy. *Le Grand Séminaire* has an important library. *Le Petit Séminaire*, built by Louis XIV. in 1669, has gardens by Le Nôtre. In the *Musée Lapidaire de la Chapelle S. Nicolas* is the antique sarcophagus which served as the tomb of Queen Brunehaut.

1 k. S.E., at the village of *Couhard*, is a curious pyramid on a square base, fifty feet high, known as the *Pierre de Couhard*,

marking a Roman cemetery, in which a number of medals and tombstones have been found. It is supposed by some to have been itself a tomb, by others a signal station.

6 k. S. is the *Château de Montjeu* (Mons Jovis), dating from XIII. c., and still inhabited by the family of Talleyrand-Périgord.

17 k. S.E. is *S. Émiland*, supposed to be the site of a battle between the Romans and Julius Sacrovir, chief of the Eduens, A.D. 21. It is named from a bishop of Nantes, who was killed here, in battle against the Saracens. His sword was long preserved in the church (XIII. c.), and a little chapel rises over his tomb in the churchyard. 25 k. from Autun in this direction is *Couches-les-Mines*, with a fine early gothic church of S. Martin, and some remains of the *Abbaye de S. Georges*, founded in VIII. c. The ruined *Château*, famous in XII. c., is said to have been the place where, in the XVI. c., the Catholics assembling formed a *ligue*, of which the name was afterwards adopted by the whole Catholic party in France.

16 k. N. on the road to Saulieu is *Lucenay-l'Évêque*, with some small remains of the castle built in 1295 by Hugues d'Arcy, Bishop of Autun. The XII. c. parish church contains the tomb of Guillaume de Brazey, 1302.

[Several roads lead from Autun to Château Chinon (see ch. iii.), through the wild district of *Morvan* (Montagne noire), which has a Celtic population, wearing the ancient saga, and speaking a patois incomprehensible to the inhabitants of the plain.<sup>1</sup>

(1) By (48 k.) *Moulins Engilbert*, where the XVI. c. church has a fine XV. c. crypt, and the XIII. c. castle occupies the site of a Roman camp. (2) By (6 k.) *Monthelon*, where the XV. c. château (now a paper-mill) was the residence of S. Jeanne Chantal, from 1602-9, and where S. François de Sales married his brother Bernard, Baron de Thorens, to the eldest daughter of the holy châtelaine, who announced, on the following day, her intention of abandoning her family and the world, to found the first convent of the Visitation. At 18 k. is *S. Léger-sous-Beuwray*, with an old tower. Then the road passes near *Le Mont Beuwray*, one of the highest points of the Morvan, bearing the remains of a city of military and religious importance, which antiquaries recognise as Bibracte, that town

<sup>1</sup> Paul Bert, *Bulletin de la Société d'Anthropologie*, 1861, p. 409.



of the Eduens to which Caesar attached great importance on account of its position between the basin of the Saône and that of the Loire. The whole summit of the hill is encircled with huge entrenchments, and many menhirs and dolmens remain on the hill, to which endless local traditions are attached. The *Chapelle de S. Martin* occupies the cella of the Temple of Dea Bibracte. A fair, called *Lite de Beuvray*, is held on the summit of the hill in the beginning of May. (3) By (13 k.) *La Celle de Morvan*, with an XI. c. church on the site of the hermitage occupied by S. Méry in the VII. c., a good centre for the wildest parts of Morvan, including the *Roches de Glaine*, the *Pic du Bois du Roi*, and *Anost*, where the (XIV. c.) church has the tombs of Comte Gérard de Rousillon and his wife.]

[A railway leads S.E. from Chagny to Autun, or to Luzy and Nevers, passing—

13 k. *S. Léger-sur-Dheune*, with a church XVI. c. to XIX. c. This is 6 k. from Couches-les-Mines. See p. 74.

29 k. *Montchanin*, whence a line runs S. to Paray-le-Monial by *Monceau-les-Mines*.

37 k. *Le Creusot* (Hotel: *de Commerce*), famous for its iron foundries.

‘Le Creusot est le groupe d’établissements industriels le plus considérable et le plus savamment disposé qui existe en France. Il y a un siècle, le pauvre hameau de la Charbonnière occupait l’emplacement où s’élève aujourd’hui la ville. Une fonderie de canons, une verrerie, des ateliers métallurgiques y furent fondés avant la Révolution; mais encore en 1857 le Creusot n’était qu’un village; depuis cette époque, il a rapidement grandi, et maintenant il dépasse en population Autun, Mâcon, Châlon et met en oeuvre beaucoup plus de matières premières, que ces trois villes. Ses mineurs exploitent les couches de houille à 200 et 400 mètres profondeur; ils ont même forcé un trou de sonde jusqu’à 920 mètres pour retrouver les couches de charbon au-dessous d’une faille. L’énorme quantité de combustible retirée des puits de mine trouve aussitôt son emploi; elle est répartie entre les hauts fourneaux, la forge, les ateliers de construction. Les mines voisines fournissent le minerai de fer, mais ni la houille ni le fer de la contrée ne suffisent à l’immense consom-

mation des mines ; le Creusot doit importer encore de combustible des autres bassins du centre de la France et demander son minéral jusqu'à l'île d'Elbe et à l'Algérie. Entré à l'état brut, le métal en sort en fers ouvrés de toute espèce, en plaques de blindage, en ponts, en machines diverses ; d'ordinaire deux locomotives par semaine sortent des ateliers.'—*Élisée Reclus*.

53 k. *Masvres* has the ruins of a monastery which existed in iv. c.

58 k. *Étang*, whence the line to Autun turns N.

80 k. *Luzy*, surrounded by walls in xiv. c. 11 k. S. is *Issy l'Évêque*, with remains of an old castle. 11 k. N. is *La Roche Millay*, with a great château re-built by the Maréchal de Villars.

103 k. *Fours*, near which are the xiv. c. *Château de la Boue* and the remains of the *Chartreuse d'Apponay*, founded xii. c. by Thibaud, Bishop of Nevers.

110 k. *Cercy-la-Tour*. The church is xii. c., the buildings of the priory of *Coulonges* end of xv. c. For the line from hence to Clamecy and Auxerre see ch. iii.

115 k. *Verneuil*. The church is xii. c. and xv. c. ; the remains of the château xiii. c., xvi. c., and xviii. c.

125 k. *Décize* (Hotels : *d'Angleterre* ; *de la Poste*). The church of *S. Aré* has a crypt of vii. c., and choir xi. c. In the crypt is the tomb of *S. Aré*. On a rock overlooking the town are the ruins of a castle, of the Counts of Nevers of xi. c. Above the town on N.E. are the (xviii. c.) ruins of a convent of Minimes.

163 k. Nevers. See ch. ii.]

[A railway runs N.E. from Chagny to (84 k.) Dole by—

48 k. *Pierre*, with a handsome château of 1680.

74 k. *Tavaux*, where the church has a good spire. The neighbouring castle of *Molay* was the birthplace of Jacques de Molay, last Grand-Master of the Templars.]

Through hills and tunnels the main line now reaches—

383 k. *Châlons-sur-Saône* (Hotels : *Grand* ; *du Chevreuil* ; *du Commerce*), a dull town of Roman origin. The *Cathedral of S. Vincent* is xii. c. and xv. c., with a xix. c. façade. On

the *Île S. Laurent* in the Saône is the *Hôpital*, of 1528, where some curious stained glass of xvi. c., formerly in the infirmary, now decorates the chapel. In the square is a handsome granite column. On a fragment of Roman wall near the river is the *Tour de Coco-Louvrier*.

[A railway runs E. from Châlons to—

6 k. *S. Marcel*, which had a famous abbey founded c. 177 on the spot where S. Marcel suffered martyrdom by being buried up to his middle, and which was richly endowed by many royal pilgrims. The church, rebuilt at the end of xii. c., has a gothic reliquary containing the remains of SS. Marcel and Agricole, and an inscription to Abélard, who died in the priory April 21, 1142, aged 63. He was buried in the chapel of the infirmary in which he expired, and where his cenotaph monument, with his figure in monastic habit, might have been seen till the last century, though in the November following his death, Peter the Venerable removed his remains to the Paraclete, where Héloïse was prioress.

‘Il avait cessé de parler, mais, jusqu’à son dernier jour, il n’avait pas cessé d’écrire, et il avait gardé intacte sa foi dans la raison et dans la liberté de l’intelligence. L’esprit qui l’avait animé ne fut point enseveli dans son sépulcre, et sa forte trace ne s’efface jamais.’—*Martin*, ‘*Hist. de France*.’

38 k. *Louhans*. The brick church is composed of two gothic buildings, side by side, and communicating by a gothic arch. The open parapet of the tower expresses the words ‘Ave Maria, gratia plena, Dominus tecum.’ The *Hospital* (xv. c.) has good wood-carving.

68 k. *Lons-le-Saulnier*. See ch. v.]

[A railway is in progress from Châlon-sur-Saône to (68 k.) Charolles, by—

8 k. *Givry*. 2½ k. distant is the *Château de Germolles*, dating from 1383, inhabited by Charles VI., and by many illustrious members of the Burgundian house.

12 k. *S. Désert*, with a fortified church of xiv. c.]

In former times the Saône afforded the chief means of communication between Châlons and the South. Travellers here took the boat called the *coche d'eau*, supplanted by the steamer, but the latter is seldom used now; nor has the Saône any scenery which repays a leisurely traveller.

'Des plaines fertiles s'étendent au loin sur les deux bords de la rivière; on voit çà et là des collines et des monticules; partout de jolis hameaux, des vergers, des maisons de campagne, des châteaux avec leurs tours et tourelles; une culture très-avancée, l'industrie et ses bienfaisants résultats.'—*Karamsine*.

391 k. *Varennés-le-Grand*. To r. is *S. Ambreuil*, retaining the (xvii. c. and xviii. c.) palace of the abbot of *La Ferté*, the only remnant of the famous abbey which was called the eldest daughter of Cîteaux.

408 k. *Tournus* (Hotel: *du Sauvage*), a town of Roman date, where S. Valérien suffered martyrdom in 177, being hung, torn by iron hooks, and finally beheaded on the site afterwards occupied by the château. A basilica rose upon the grave of the saint, and then a Cistercian abbey. The parish church of S. Philibert, formerly that of the abbey, is a magnificent specimen of Burgundian architecture. Built 1009 to 1019 and finished in the next century, slightly altered in xiv. c. and xv. c., it has the great W. porch which is characteristic of Cluniac abbeys.

'Un des porches fermés les plus anciens est celui de Tournus: il se compose à rez-de-chaussée d'une nef centrale à trois travées avec bas-côtés. Cette nef centrale est formée par des voûtes d'arête avec arcs-doubleaux; les nefs latérales sont couvertes par des berceaux perpendiculaires aux murs latéraux, reposant sur les arcs-doubleaux. On entrait dans ce narthex par une porte donnant sur une cour précédée d'une enceinte fortifiée. La façade elle-même du porche était défendue. Deux tours s'élèvent sur les deux premières travées. Au premier étage, ce vaste narthex forme une église avec nef élevée, voûtée en berceau, et



collatéraux voûtés en demi-berceaux. Des meurtrières s'ouvrent à la partie inférieure de cette salle, éclairée par des fenêtres percées dans les murs de la haute nef et dans le pignon antérieur. Du côté de l'église, un arcade est percée dans le mur pignon, au niveau du sol du premier étage, et permet de voir ce qui se passe dans la nef.—*Viollet le Duc.*



IN S. PHILIBERT, TOURNUS.

‘L’absence d’ornements, le caractère de lourdeur et de rudesse de la nef et du vestibule me font croire que ces parties de l’église sont les plus anciennes. Je n’hésite pas à penser qu’elles datent du x<sup>e</sup> siècle. L’incendie qui détruisit le monastère a dû être impuissant contre ses masses énormes. La restauration, de Bernier, en 1019, se borna probablement à substituer, dans la nef des voûtes

aux plafonds. Le chœur me paraît également de la même époque.'—*Prosper Mérimée*.

The choir has a pretty external decoration of coloured bricks. In the interior, the nave, like the narthex, is low; the cylindrical pillars have no capitals. The vaulting of the central tower—'La Pyramide'—is very remarkable. An ambulatory and five square chapels surround the choir. Between the choir windows are exquisite pillars sculptured with grapes and vine leaves in relief. At the end of the N. aisle is the gravestone of Simone de Baze, wife of Miles de Frolais, 1327. A chapel, adorned with simple arcades, extends by the side of the S. aisle: against the walls of this aisle is an altar-piece containing a precious Byzantine Madonna. The four arches of the cross, of early gothic, support an octagonal cupola, and a beautiful square tower of two storeys. At the end of the N. transept is a grand rose window. Fourteen steps lead under the choir to the crypt, which ends in three apses. In the central of these rests S. Valérien; on the l. is the Abbot Geilon; on the r. is S. Philibert, who, born of noble parentage, and brought up at the court of Dagobert, was led to a religious life by the teaching of S. Audoënus (S. Ouen). He founded the abbeys of Jumièges and Noirmontier, and died in the latter. In 871, thirty-five years after his death, his remains were brought here, having wandered meanwhile to La Vendée, Anjou, Poitou, and S. Pourçain in the Bourbonnais. The monastic buildings, of XII. c. and XVII. c., are occupied by working men. They were formerly surrounded by walls continuing the N. wall of the town. The *Hospice de la Charité* was built, 1718, by Cardinal Fleury, then abbot of Tournus. There are remains of convents of the *Madeleine*

and of the *Soeurs du Voile Noir*. An inscription marks the very humble house in which the painter Greuze was born in 1725. A stone column in the square was found in the Saône. Near the town are two *peulvans* nearly fifteen feet high.

[7 k. E. of Tournus is *Cuisery*, an old walled town, where the church (XIII. c. to XVI. c.) has a handsome tower.]

441 k. *Mâcon* (Hotels: *de l'Europe*—good, but dear; *du Sauvage*—both on the quai of the Saône; *de France*—near the station), on a site occupied by an important city of the Eduens before the Roman conquest.

‘ Sur les bords de la Saône, en remontant son cours, à quelques lieues de Lyon, s’élève, au penchant d’un coteau à peine renflé au-dessus des plaines, la ville petite mais gracieuse de Mâcon : deux clochers gothiques, décapités et ruinés par le temps, attirent l’œil et la pensée du voyageur qui descend, vers la Provence ou vers l’Italie, sur les bateaux à vapeur dont la rivière est tout le jour sillonnée. Au-dessous de ces ruines de la cathédrale antique s’étendent, sur une longueur de près d’une demi-lieue, de longues piles de maisons blanches et des quais, où l’on débarque et où l’on embarque les marchandises du midi de la France et les produits du vignobles mâconnais. Le haut de la ville, que l’on n’aperçoit pas de la rivière, est abandonné au silence et au repos ; on dirait une ville espagnole ; l’herbe y croît l’été entre les pavés : les hauts murailles des anciens couvents en assombrissent les rues étroites : un collège, un hôpital, des églises, les unes restaurées, les autres délabrées et servant de magasins aux tonneliers du pays ; une grande place plantée de tilleuls à ses deux extrémités, où les enfants jouent et où les vieillards s’assoient au soleil dans les beaux jours ; de longs faubourgs à maisons basses qui montent au serpentant jusqu’au sommet de la colline ; et, aux alentours de la place cinq ou six hôtels ou grandes maisons, presque toujours fermées, qui reçoivent l’hiver, les anciennes familles de la province ; voilà le coup d’œil de la haute ville.

C'est le quartier de ce qu'on appelait autrefois la noblesse et le clergé.

'À l'un des angles de cette place, qui était avant la Révolution un rempart, et qui en conserve le nom, on voit une grande et haute maison, percée de fenêtres rares, et dont les murs élevés, massifs, noircis par la pluie, éraillés par le soleil, sont reliés depuis plus d'un siècle par de grosses clefs de fer. Une porte haute et large, précédée d'un perron de deux marches, donne entrée dans un long vestibule, au fond duquel un lourd escalier en pierre brille au soleil par une fenêtre colossale et monte d'étage en étage pour desservir de nombreux et profonds appartements. C'est la maison où je suis né.'—*Lamartine*, '*Les Confidences*.'

The city of Mâcon, situated on a great bend of the Saône, is remarkable for its healthiness, and in spite of the flat country, and featureless town, has a certain charm from the great reaches of the glistening river. The old *Cathedral of S. Vincent*, rebuilt XIII. c., was destroyed at the Revolution, and nothing remains but part of the W. porch and towers. These are of two periods, the lower romanesque, the upper XIII. c. and XIV. c.: one of the towers had a stone spire, now partially destroyed. In the Rue Dombey, near the quay, is a good timber house.

'It is the boast of the village of S. Laurent, opposite Mâcon, that every male can swim. Ask one of the villagers if he is a swimmer, and he does not answer "Yes," but smiles significantly and says, "Je suis de S. Laurent."'—*Hamerton*, '*French and English*.'

[A railway runs from Mâcon to—

6 k. *Charnay-Condemine*.  $4\frac{1}{2}$  k. is *Solutré*, formerly famous for its wine, and now much visited by geologists, owing to the fossil remains discovered there, and the extraordinary geological ossuary, where 100,000 skeletons of horses have been found.



8 k. *Prissé*. The farm of *Chevignes* was an ancient priory given to the monks of Cluny by Rudolphe II. Abélard spent two years there for the benefit of his health. 2 k. N., amid vineyards, is the *Château de Montceaux*, which came to Lamartine from his father's elder brother; its contents were dispersed by a sale in 1870, and the property is now sold.

2 k. from the station the Route de Roanne turns S.W. by (12 k.) the ancient fortified town of *Pierreclos*, and (25 k.) *Tramayes* with a château of 1589.

11 k. *S. Sorlin-Milly*. 1 k. is *Milly*—little more than a farmhouse, the home of Lamartine's childhood, which had belonged to his grand-parents.

'À droite et à gauche blanchissent des hameaux au milieu des vignes. Au-dessus de ces hameaux, des montagnes nues et sans culture étendent en pentes rapides et rocailleuses des pelouses grises où l'on distingue comme des points blancs de rares troupeaux. Toutes ces montagnes sont couronnées de quelques masses de rochers qui sortent de terre, et dont les dents usées par le temps et par les vents présentent à l'oeil les formes et les déchirures de vieux châteaux démantelés. En suivant la route qui circule autour de la base de ces collines, à environ deux heures de marche de la ville, on trouve à gauche un petit chemin étroit voilé de saules, qui descend dans les prés vers un ruisseau où l'on entend perpétuellement battre la roue du moulin.

'Ce chemin serpente un moment sous les arbres, à côté du ruisseau, qui le prend aussi pour lit quand les eaux courantes sont un peu grossies par les pluies; puis on traverse l'eau sur un petit pont, et on s'élève par une pente tournoyante, mais rapide, vers les masures couvertes de tuiles rouges, qu'on voit groupées au-dessus de soi, sur un petit plateau. C'est notre village. Un clocher de pierres grises, en forme de pyramide, y surmonte sept à huit maisons de paysans. Le chemin pierreux s'y glisse de porte en porte entre les chaumières. Au bout de ce chemin, on arrive à une porte un peu plus haute et un peu plus large que les autres: c'est celle de la cour au fond de laquelle se cache la maison de mon père.

'La maison s'y cache en effet, car on ne la voit d'aucun côté,

ni du village ni de la grand'route. Bâtie dans le creux d'un large pli de vallon, dominée de toutes parts par le clocher, par les bâtiments rustiques ou par des arbres, adossée à une assez haute montagne, ce n'est qu'en gravissant cette montagne et en se retournant qu'on voit en bas cette maison basse, mais massive, qui surgit, comme une grosse borne de pierre noirâtre, à l'extrémité d'un étroit jardin. Elle est carrée, elle n'a qu'un étage et trois larges fenêtres sur chaque face. Les murs n'en sont point crépis; la pluie et la mousse ont donné aux pierres la teinte sombre et séculaire des vieux cloîtres d'abbaye. Du côté de la cour, on entre dans la maison par une haute porte en bois sculpté. Cette porte est assise sur un large perron de cinq marches de pierres de taille. Mais les pierres, quoique de dimension colossale, ont été tellement écornées, usées, morcelées par le temps et par les fardeaux qu'on y dépose, qu'elles sont entièrement disjointes, qu'elles vacillent en murmurant sourdement sous les pas, que les orties, les pariétaires humides y croissent çà et là dans les interstices, et que les petites grenouilles d'été, à la voix si douce et si mélancolique, y chantent le soir comme dans un marais.'

'Voici le nid qui nous abrita tant d'années de la pluie, du froid, de la faim, du souffle du monde; le nid où la mort est venue prendre tour à tour le père et la mère, et dont les enfants se sont successivement envolés, ceux-ci pour un lieu, ceux-là pour un autre, quelques-uns pour l'éternité.'—*Lamartine*, '*Les Confidences*.'

So wrote Lamartine, but he was afterwards obliged to sell Milly to pay the debts of his extravagance, and it is now in the hands of strangers.

15 k. *La Croix Blanche*, near which is the fine ruined castle of *Berzé-le-Châtel*, with machicolated gateway, passages in the thickness of the wall, and chapel.

23 k. *Cluny* (Hotel: *de Bourgogne*), on the Grosne. On this spot, then called 'La Vallée noire,' stood, in the x. c., a little hamlet, which came by will to Guillaume le Pieux, Duc d'Aquitaine. He, towards the close of his life, wished to found a new monastery. Summoning Bernon, Abbot of Baume, he went forth with him to search for a spot propitious for his intentions. At last they arrived, says the chronicle, at a spot from which

all human life seemed banished, so deserted, that it seemed to them 'the image of celestial solitude.' This was Cluny. But as the duke objected that it would never be possible to inhabit such a place, on account of the huntsmen and dogs which infested the forests by which the country was covered, Bernon answered smiling, 'Chassez les chiens et faites venir des moines; car ne savez-vous pas quel profit meilleur vous demeurera des chiens de chasse ou des prières monastiques?' This answer decided Guillaume, and the abbey was founded c. 909. Pope John XX. set it free (932) from 'all dependence upon any king, bishop, or count whatsoever.'

S. Odon and S. Maëul, second and third abbots of Cluny, reformed the Benedictine rule for their abbey, and set an example which was followed by a vast number of other monasteries in Europe, and even, after the Crusades, in the East, all hastened to adopt the Benedictine rule as reformed at Cluny, and as adorned by the virtues of Odon, Maëul, Odilon, Hugues, and Peter the Venerable, honoured as saints or blessed by the Church. Cluny alone was called an abbey, the religious houses which sprang from it were priories. At the end of XI. c., and during a great part of XII. c., the intellectual capital of Europe, the cradle of modern civilisation, was at Cluny; two thousand monastic institutions were subject to it. The building of its glorious church of S. Pierre, 1089-1131, created the Romanesque-Burgundian school of architecture. It was begun by a monk named Gauzon, Cluniac abbot of Baume, and was finished by the Flemish monk Hezelon, the kings of Spain and England paying the cost. Guillaume le Grand, Comte de Poitiers, added a magnificent cloister with marble pillars. 'I found an abbey of wood,' he said, 'and I left it of marble.'

William the Conqueror begged the Abbot of Cluny to come over to govern the religious affairs of England. At that time Cluny was like a kingdom. Its dominion extended over three hundred and fourteen monasteries and churches. The Abbot-General was a temporal prince, who, as regards the spiritual, owed no deference except to the Holy See. He coined his own money at Cluny itself, just as the king of France coined it in royal Paris.<sup>1</sup> Three eminent popes—Gregory VII., Urban II.,

<sup>1</sup> Harding, *Hist. de S. Étienne*.

and Pascal II., were given by Cluny to the Church. Many councils were held here, and the abbots of Cluny became the most trusted counsellors of popes and kings. Several sovereigns sought a refuge here for their last days. Hither also Abélard retired to spend his last years with Peter the Venerable, one of the most illustrious men of the age, and the friend and correspondent of his beloved Héloïse. By Peter the Venerable he was reconciled to S. Bernard, long his rival and opponent, the terrible reformer, who inveighed against the increasing luxury and splendour of Cluny, and to whose severer monasteries of Cistercian rule, the great popularity of Cluny became partially transferred.

Towards the end of XII. c., the attacks of neighbouring lords made it necessary to surround the abbey with fortifications, but in 1245 it was so large that, when S. Louis had an interview there with Innocent IV., besides its three or four hundred monks, it was able to contain the pope, the king, twelve cardinals, the patriarchs of Antioch and Constantinople, seventeen bishops and archbishops, the queen-mother, the Comte d'Artois, the Prince of Arragon, the Emperor of Constantinople, the Prince of Castille, the Duke of Burgundy, the Comte de Bourbon, and a crowd of ecclesiastics and knights of all ranks, without obliging the monks to leave their dormitory, refectory, or any of their accustomed haunts.

At the end of xv. c. many abbeys having fallen *in commendam*, Cluny fell to the house of Lorraine or Guise, which held it till Richelieu, and afterwards Mazarin, obtained a grant of it. The religious wars of XVI. c. pillaged the treasury, but spared the church. At the Revolution the library was, for the most part, burnt; the bells were sent to Mâcon to be melted down; and finally the church was sold in 1798 as national property, and between 1801 and 1811 it was demolished by fragments.

After S. Peter's at Rome, this *Abbey Church of Cluny* was the largest church in Western Christendom. Nothing now remains but some fragments of the S. wall of the nave, the S. transept, with its octagonal tower and a smaller square tower, which contained a staircase, the sacristy of 1750, the *Chapelle des Bourbons*, the *Chapelle S. Martial*, and the *Chapelle de la Congrégation*, all three of xv. c. In a sort of *Musée* in the *Chapelle des Bourbons*



are stone coffins and other memorials, especially a model in relief of the ancient church.

'Ce modèle est trop petit et évidemment trop grossièrement fait pour inspirer une grande confiance. On peut cependant s'y rapporter pour le plan général, qui est remarquable, l'église ayant cinq nefs et des transepts doubles, qui forment ainsi une croix de



CLUNY.

Lorraine. On dit qu'il n'existe actuellement en France qu'une seule église à doubles transepts.'—*Prosper Mérimée*.

The town is built on and from the abbey ruins. The xvi. c. cloister has become a sort of public square surrounded by cafés and shops. The remaining monastic buildings are of xiii. c., xiv. c., and xv. c. and are used for the *École normale professionnelle*, destined to train professors of science and industrial arts. The site of the church is occupied by a *haras*. Of the

ancient abbatial ramparts, the square *Tour du Moulin*, the *Tour Ronde* (xiii. c.), and the *Tour Fabri* (xiv. c.) remain. The city wall retains its three gates.

The parish church of *Notre Dame* has three naves preceded by a richly-sculptured portal and a very fine tower.

‘Les fonts baptismaux, taillés dans un bloc de pierre, affectent la forme d’une cuve hémisphérique à l’intérieur, et sont décorés à l’extérieur par quatre colonnettes supportant quatre têtes, entre lesquelles règne une frise de feuillages de lierre d’une bonne sculpture. Les quatre petits repos qui portent les têtes avaient une utilité et servaient probablement à poser le sel, l’huile, et les flambeaux.’—*Viollet le Duc*.

The romanesque basilica of *S. Marcel* is of the xi. c. and xii. c., and has an octagonal tower with a spire, and a font of the beginning of the xi. c.

The town of Cluny is unusually rich in houses of the middle ages. As many as twelve are of xi. c. and xii. c. In one of these—

‘On voit que la construction ne consiste qu’en un moellonnage avec quelques pierres de taille pour les bandeaux, les arcs, les fenêtres, et leurs linteaux. Les arcs du bas s’ouvrent dans les boutiques. À droite, est la porte de l’allée qui conduit à l’escalier. Le premier étage présente une galerie à jour, composée de pieds droits et de colonnettes, éclairant la grande salle. Les baies sont carrées pour pouvoir recevoir les châssis ouvrants. Dans les linteaux, sous les arcs intérieurs qui portent la tour du second étage, sont percés des petits jours dormants. Le second étage est éclairé par une claire-voie moins importante, et un comble très-saillant rejette les eaux loin des parements.’—*Viollet le Duc*.

Besides these very early houses, Cluny possesses four or five of xiii. c., and many others, equally built in stone of xv. c. and xvi. c. An inscription marks the house where Pierre-Paul Prud’hon was born.

28 k. *S. Cécile-la-Valouse*. 6 k. S. is *S. Point*, with the château of Lamartine, the only one of the Lamartine houses which remains in the family. It contains a few family portraits.

'Au milieu de la vallée, un monticule, détaché des deux chaînes latérales, se renfle pour porter le château et l'église. Le clocher, en flèche aiguë de granit, bruni et moussu par les siècles, porte sa date de 1300 dans ses ogives. Les grosses tours décapitées du château, crénelées seulement de nids d'hirondelles, s'élèvent lourdement sous leur tuiles plates, aux deux extrémités d'un massif de murs surbaissés, percé de rares ouvertures à croisillons, inégales d'étages.

'Une galerie extérieure, en pierres de taille, bordée d'une balustrade à trèfles, unit les grosses tours entre elles et sert de communication aux appartements. Les lierres, les sureaux, les figuiers, les lilas croissent en fouillis au pied de cette galerie, en cachent aux yeux les arcades, et débordent comme une écume de végétation sur les parapets.

'À l'exception d'un vieux portique de colonnettes accouplées en faisceaux, qui déborde le seuil de la galerie extérieure portée par des arcades massives, et d'une tourelle à flèche aiguë qui fond le ciel à un angle occidental du vieux château, rien n'y rappelle à l'oeil une construction de luxe: c'est l'aspect d'une large ferme, creusée pour des usages rustiques, dans le bloc épais d'un manoir abandonné.

'Le seul charme de ce séjour, c'est son site: de quelque côté qu'on porte des regards, aux quatre horizons de ce monticule, on s'égare, depuis le fond de la vallée jusqu'au ciel, sur les flancs de montagnes à pentes ardues, entrecoupées de forêts, de clairières, de genêts dorés, de ravines creuses, de hameaux suspendus aux pentes, des châtaigniers, d'eaux écumantes, d'écluses, de moulins, de vignes jaunes, de prés verts, de maïs cuivrés, de blé noir, d'épis ondoyants, de huttes basses de bûcherons et de chevriers, à peine discernables du rocher au dernier sommet des montagnes, habitations qui ne se revèlent que par leur fumée.'—*Lamartine*.

In the *Church* are statues of S. Geneviève and S. Élisabeth, sculptured by Mme. de Lamartine. It is in the crypt of this church that the cries of a young Marquise de S. Point were heard on the night after her burial, and that she was rescued from the grave, living happily for many years afterwards.

A sepulchral chapel in the churchyard contains the remains

of Lamartine, his wife, daughter, mother, and mother-in-law. Mme. A. de Lamartine is represented in a sleeping figure by Salomon. Visitors will wish to read upon the spot the poet's touching account of his mother's burial here.

‘Je veillai seul auprès du cercueil avec Philiberte, en attendant (à Mâcon) l'heure nocturne où les paysans de Milly devaient venir un à un, et sans bruit, emporter sur leurs épaules, à travers quatre heures de marche, le corps de leur dame. À minuit nous nous mîmes en route à pied, dans une couche profonde de neige glacée, à travers le long faubourg qui mène de la ville aux premières collines de notre horizon de montagnes. Bien que le lugubre cortège eût été rigoureusement limité par moi, à moi seul de tous les membres de la famille et aux seuls métayers ou cultivateurs dépendant de sa chère demeure de Milly, les femmes et les enfants de ces braves gens, vêtus de leurs pauvres habits de deuil, avaient cru, par droit de tendresse, pouvoir suivre le chef de famille et prolongeaient sur la grandroute la file noire des pleureuses dont on n'avait pas eu besoin d'acheter les larmes. Aucune voix, aucun chuchotement ne sortait pendant ce long trajet de la foule. On n'entendait rien sur la neige durcie que les sabots de bois des femmes tenant leurs petits enfants par la main, et, de temps en temps, le bruit sec et caverneux du cercueil de chêne, recevant une légère secousse en changeant de place sur les épaules des porteurs qui se relayaient à l'envi sous le saint fardeau.

‘À deux heures et demi de route de la ville, nous quittâmes le grand chemin et nous gravîmes, par un sentier de traverse pavé de glaçons, la colline roide qui mène au hameau de Milly. Toutes les maisons étaient éveillées, et l'on voyait, sur le seuil de toutes les chaumières, un vieillard ou un enfant tenant à la main la petite lampe de cuivre allumée qui éclairait des visages pâles, des yeux pleurants, des mains gelottantes du froid extrême de cette nuit de décembre. Arrivés dans la cour de la maison, les porteurs, suivis de tous les habitants du village, gravirent les cinq marches du perron et déposèrent le cercueil dans le vestibule, là où elle avait l'habitude de recevoir, tous les matins, les nécessiteux ou les malades, de faire ses dis-



tributions d'aliments, de bouillon, d'onguents, de hardes, et de panser à genoux les plaies des blessés. Ces mêmes bancs en noyer, sur lesquels ils étendaient leurs jambes entourées de linge et de charpie, servaient précisément aujourd'hui à supporter son cercueil. Elle était étendue, couchée sur les instruments de sa charité. Un grand sanglot sortit alors de la cour remplie de tout ce peuple des chaumières. Chacun s'approcha pour tremper un rameau de buis dans le bénitier de son lit et pour jeter autant de larmes que d'eau sainte sur son cercueil. Pendant cette halte sous le toit de sa jeunesse et de son amour, je m'étais retiré seul dans sa chambre, le visage collé contre les couvertures de son lit vide, et j'entendais de là le long retentissement des sabots des hommes et des femmes qui montaient et descendaient sans cesse les degrés du perron en dalles, pour venir à leur tour s'agenouiller dans le vestibule. Nous attendîmes ainsi les premières heures de l'aurore, avant de nous engager dans le défilé des hautes montagnes encombrées de neige en poudre, labourée par le vent du nord, qui effaçait les sentiers et comblait les ravines. Ces sentiers pouvaient être périlleux dans les ténèbres au petit cortège qui devait porter le corps de sa maison de Milly au cimetière de S. Point.

'Dès que l'aube rougit la cime lointaine des Alpes, qu'on aperçoit de Milly, nous repartîmes escortés jusqu'au sommet de la première colline qui domine le jardin et les vignes, par le village en pleurs. Nous congédiâmes, au tournant de la haute vallée, cette foule à qui on semblait arracher sa providence, et nous nous enforçâmes, avec un petit groupe de huit hommes vigoureux, dans le défilé étroit et âpre qui monte au faite de ces montagnes, et qu'on appella la Croix-des-Signaux. Quatre de ces hommes marchaient en avant du cercueil pour sonder la neige et tracer le sentier, quatre autres portaient ma mère. Je marchais seul derrière eux, mon pied dans leurs pas. La neige dans quelques endroits s'élevait jusqu'à nos genoux; elle assoupissait les bruits, excepté les sifflements aigus de la bise.

'Notre route, qui n'est dans la belle saison que de deux heures, fut de sept heures dans cet océan de neige à grandes vagues, prêtes à chaque instant à tout engloutir. Il y eut des pas dans les ravins très-creux en redescendant vers la vallée de S. Point, où nous ne fûmes guidés que par les grands cadavres

noirs des châtaigniers perchés sur les abîmes, et où nous aurions péri sans l'adresse et la vigueur de ces robustes paysans de Milly. Leur fardeau leur donnait force et confiance. Nous arrivâmes au jour déjà palissant. Nous déposâmes, comme nous avions fait à Milly, le cercueil dans la chambre et sur le lit même de ma mère, devenu depuis quelques années le mien. . . . À l'aurore, le cercueil transporté de son lit à l'église, et suivi de douze hameaux en deuil et en pleurs, traversa le jardin par cette même allée des noisetiers, où j'avais vu si souvent la pieuse femme revenir de l'autel le visage tout noyé de componction, de rêverie, de bonheur, et de piété. Mes propres mains aidèrent à le descendre et à le coucher dans sa demeure éternelle. Je revins seul à la maison, où je m'enfermai à clef dans ma tour. . . .

'C'est ainsi que nous perdîmes notre mère, et que notre petite contrée perdit sa Providence, sa sainteté et sa grâce dans une même femme. Demandez au premier vieillard ou à la première veuve que vous rencontrerez sur nos chemins!'—'*Le Manuscrit de ma Mère.*'

Visitors must not expect much from the château of S. Point. Victor Hugo went to see Lamartine there, and looked in vain for 'embattled summits,' 'bushy ivy,' and 'stones tinted by the hand of time.' Lamartine confessed that he had destroyed it all; the ivy gave him rheumatism, the grey stones and battlements made him melancholy, so he had painted it all yellow.

55 k. *S. Bonnet-Beaubery*. *S. Bonnet-de-Joux* owes its second name to the mountain of Joux, supposed to have been consecrated to Jupiter (Mons Jovis). At the hamlet of *Chaumont* is the handsome château of the Marquis de la Guiche, rebuilt (xvi. c.) by Louis, Duc d'Angoulême, husband of Henriette de la Guiche. An equestrian statue upon the stables represents her father, Philibert de Guiche. The great tower was built by Jacques d'Amboise, Abbot of Cluny, in 1505. 8 k. N., at *La Guiche*, are a ruined castle of the family de la Guiche, and, in the church, remains of the tomb of the Duc d'Angoulême, 1643.

62 k. *Charolles* (Hotels: *du Lion d'Or*; *de la Poste*), capital of the countship of Le Charolais, early rendered famous by Charles le Téméraire, and given to the house of Condé in xvii. c.

The *Hôtel de Ville* occupies the old château, which has two round towers of xiv. c.

78 k. *Paray-le-Monial* (Hotels: *Drago; de la Poste; des trois Pigeons*), said to have been originally peopled by Jews-Polacres (Polaques or Polonais), a place which has become well known in the present century through the increasing devotion of Catholics to the Mère Marguerite Marie Alacoque, who, in the time when Jansenism was gaining ground, stimulated the flagging energies of Ultra-Roman-Catholicism, by founding the 'Adoration of the Sacred Heart.' Marguerite Alacoque belonged to the Order of the Visitation, founded by S. François de Sales, and early established at Paray. Soon after taking the veil, she fell into a visionary state, which increased till her religious transports took a miraculous form. Even then, there is something sincere and touching in her desire to shrink from notoriety, and her simple dread lest her fancies should be delusions. 'I constantly fear, lest being mistaken myself, I should mislead others,' she wrote to her confessor. 'I pray constantly to God that He will permit me to be unknown, lost, and buried in lasting oblivion. My Divine Master has required of me, by my obedience, that I should write to you, but I cannot and do not believe that it can be His will that any recollection should remain after death of so pitiful a creature.'

She appears to have forgotten all else in the longing after a complete heart-union with her Saviour. 'I desire,' she wrote to one who asked her advice, 'nothing more than to be blind and ignorant as regards human affairs, in order perfectly to learn the lesson I so much need, that a good nun must leave all to find God, be ignorant of all else to know Him, forget all else to possess Him, do and suffer all in order to learn to love Him.' Many of her letters exist, of which a great portion were written to a certain Father La Colombière, who was then living in S. James's Palace, as one of the chaplains of Catherine of Braganza, Queen of Charles II. Those who read them will feel that, however imaginative and ecstatic she was, she had at least a firm faith in the facts and feelings she narrates, and a simple anxiety that while she, the instrument, was forgotten, the narration of them might redound to the glory of God. In her early life in the convent, she seems also to have been really

anxious to counteract, by honest practical work, the increase of her visionary tendency, and we find her in turn fulfilling the offices of 'infirmarian,' 'mistress of the children,' and 'mistress of the novices.' 'As to her prayers for suffering,' quaintly says one of her biographers, 'they were most abundantly answered. Her life was one of constant and agonizing pain, and her only comfort was in frequent communion—which she called the reception of "the Bread of Love."'

Gradually, as her sickness and her self-inflicted penances increased, her religious fervour began to border upon insanity. She believed that she was constantly addressed by a personal Saviour—from the sacrament of the altar, beneath the walnut-trees of the garden. He showed her His wounds, which He said were still bleeding from the persecution of living unbelievers. He told her that He sought 'a victim for His heart,' who would 'offer herself for the accomplishment of His designs.' Then, in her 'longing after the presence of Divine love,' she offered her own heart to the Saviour, and He accepted it. Visibly and actually, as she believed, and as is believed by the pilgrims to Paray-le-Monial, the Saviour received her heart and placed it within His own, which she 'saw through the wound in His sacred side,' and that it was 'burning like the sun, or like a fiery furnace.' When her own heart was entirely aflame, 'Our Saviour placed it again in the side of His servant,' saying, 'Receive, My beloved, the pledge of My love.' From this time Marguerite-Marie was possessed by one idea alone—the promulgation of the worship of 'the Sacred Heart of Jesus,' in its actual and literal sense. Persecuted at first by her own sisterhood, she gradually gained an ascendancy over them, and through the rest of her life, urged upon the world, in her letters and words, the 'Adoration of the Sacred Heart,' announcing eleven benefits which her vivid imagination assured her that the Saviour had verbally promised to those who would honour Him under this peculiar form. Fortunately, perhaps, for herself and the world, from the time of her 'revelation' her health gave way. She was never free from a burning pain in her side, which on Fridays increased to agony, and she died Oct. 17, 1690.

One of the first disciples of Marguerite-Marie was Queen Mary Beatrice, wife of James II. of England, then an exile in



France, who was persuaded by the Jesuits to implore the papal authority to institute a festival of 'the Sacred Heart of Jesus.' This, however, was only obtained from Clement XI., in 1711. Since then the 'devotion' has been so increased by the indefatigable energy of the Jesuits, that there is now hardly a cottage or a room in a humble inn in France or Italy, which is not decorated with a common gaudy print of 'the Sacred Heart of Jesus.' On Aug. 23, 1856, an apostolic decree of Pius IX.



PARAY-LE-MONIAL.

made the festival of the Sacred Heart obligatory upon the whole Catholic Church.

For a time it seemed as if the wish of Marguerite Alacoque was to be fulfilled, and that she herself was to remain forgotten, while the doctrine for which she had laid down her life was received everywhere. But her convent companions, seeing how great, though subtle, her influence had been, watched over the grave where she was laid, and, in 1703, her tomb was opened and her body enclosed in an oak coffin. When the sisterhood were expelled from their convent at the Revolution of 1792, they took

her bones with them, and for some time they were concealed in the paternal home of one of the sisters at La Charité-sur-Loire. After their return, bringing back the body, the Bishop of Autun was induced to allow an enquiry to be instituted into the life and miracles of 'the servant of God.' These alleged miracles were considered satisfactory, and, in 1824, Leo XII. saluted Marguerite-Marie by the title of Venerable; in 1863 Pius IX. gave her Beatification.

Paray, in its present state, is one great shrine to Marguerite-Marie Alacoque. It exists by the pilgrimages in her honour. Half its houses are inns or lodgings for the pilgrims. Two-thirds of its shops are for the sale of medals, prints, or biographies of *La Bienheureuse*. Its grand old parish church, of XII. c. and XIII. c., which belonged to a Cluniac monastery, stands close to the river Bourbince, with two towers upon the W. narthex and a large octagonal tower at the cross. The great apse of the E. end is surrounded by a series of chapels. A peculiar feature in the simple and, beautiful interior is the ancient font, now used as a bénitier, and surmounted by a crucifix. All around in groups, and, behind the high altar, in masses, are the banners offered to 'the Sacred Heart of Jesus'—many of them from towns, some from congregations in Paris, but by far the greater number from small country parishes, painfully and laboriously contributed by peasants, chiefly Bretons.

A rugged street winds up the hill to the picturesque Hôtel de Ville, of 1525-28. It is said that two brothers of the family Jaillet, one Protestant, the other Catholic, ruined themselves here in building; the first in erecting this handsome mansion, the other in building a church opposite, to hide its view. The latter was destroyed during the Revolution and only the tower—*Tour de S. Nicolas*—remains.

An avenue of rosary and relic shops leads from La Paroisse to the *Church of the Visitation*. This is the sanctum-sanctorum. It is covered with colour and gilding. Day as well as night numberless candles blaze ceaselessly around the shrine. The walls are covered with gorgeous banners, that of Alsace, adorned with a cross, and the motto, 'In hoc signo vinces,' is hung with crape. Over the altar is a modern picture of the

event which is supposed to have taken place on that very spot, the appearance of our Saviour to Marguerite-Marie. Beneath lies her body in a gilt enamelled shrine. It is dressed in the habit she wore in life, and is formed from the still perfect bones, enclosed in a waxen image. One portion of the actual flesh is believed to remain intact; it is that portion of the head which is supposed to have rested upon the bosom of the Saviour. The shrine of Marguerite, as it is now, almost forms the altar, and thus, as one of her poor devotees said, 'the grave of the Bienheureuse serves as a pedestal for the throne of the Sacred Heart.'



SHRINE OF MARGUERITE-MARIE ALAQUE.

89 k. *Digoin*, on the Loire. At 2 k. N.E. a station of the stone age has been discovered.

108 k. *Gilly-sur-Loire*. 15 k. is *Bourbon-Lancy* (Hotel: *Grand*), with mineral baths. The church is partly xi. c. There is a fine view from the ruined castle.

117 k. *Dompierre-sur-Bèbre*. 3 k. N.E. is the *Abbaye de Sept-Fonds*, founded 1132 for Cistercians, and occupied by Trappists since 1845. 8 k. S.E. is *Saligny*, where a Templar church has a curious romanesque portal and crypt. The château is xvi. c. and xvii. c.

145 k. *Moulins*. See ch. ii.]

[A line leads S.W. from Mâcon to (101 k.) Roanne by—

24 k. *Tramayés*. 4 k. N. is *S. Point*. See above.

56 k. *La Clayette*, prettily situated on a lake. 5 k. S.W. is the church of *S. Laurent*, partly romanesque. At 10 k. is the xi. c. church of *Vauban*, which belonged to the Maréchal de Vauban.

67 k. *Châteauneuf*, with an old castle and a xvi. c. château. The church is xii. c. with a xiv. c. spire.

77 k. *Charlieu* (*Carus locus*), with considerable remains of a Benedictine monastery, founded in the ix. c. The romanesque church porch is one of the most magnificent of its kind in France, and rich in statues, reliefs, and sculpture of every kind. In the narthex of the church a number of curious fragments from the monastery are preserved. Above the porch is a hall with columned windows. The parish church, of xiii. c. and xv. c., has xvi. c. stall work. The chapel of the *Hospice* has a xvi. c. rétable. Several houses are xiii. c. and xiv. c.]

On leaving Mâcon, the main line passes through a vine-country, studded with villages and châteaux. Of the latter, the most important is (on r.) *Corcelles*, of 1550, a very perfect building of the Renaissance, with moat, drawbridge, dungeon, chapel, and a well with splendid ironwork in its courtyard.

463 k. *Belleville*. The church, begun 1168, has a nave with aisles, transept, choir (altered xiv. c.), and five apses. Two square towers rise at the ends of the transept.

[A branch line turns N.W. from Belleville (passing, near the station of Durette-Quincié, the xiv. c. château of *Pierre*, besieged by the Baron des Adrets in the wars of religion), to—

13 k. *Beaujeu*—*Belli jocus*—(*Hotel: de l'Europe*), chief town of Beaujolais, the residence of a princely family illustrious in army and church in the eleventh and twelfth centuries. In 1340, Édouard II., Lord of Beaujeu, having carried off the daughter of a merchant of Villefranche, was summoned to



give an account of his actions before the Parliament of Paris, but made the messenger swallow the seals of the commission; and flung him out of a window in his castle of Pouilly. Being afterwards seized and taken prisoner to Paris, he purchased his pardon by giving up all his lands to the Duc de Bourbon, whose descendant Pierre married the eldest daughter of Louis XI.—*la grande dame de Beaujeu*—who governed France during the minority of Charles VIII. Re-united to the Crown, Beaujolais was given back to the house of Bourbon by François II., and passed successively to the Duchesse de Montpensier and the house of Orléans, who held it till the Revolution.

‘Un Lion noci en champ d’ora,  
Les ongles roges et la quoaïa reverpa,  
Un lambey roge sur le joïa,  
Y sont les armes de Béjoïa.’

And its device: *A tout venant beau jeu.*

Very little except fragments of wall remains of the château, destroyed by Richelieu. The *Church of S. Nicolas* was founded in the beginning of XIII. c. by Guichard II., on the filled-up site of a pool in which his son, the young Prince de Beaujeu, had been drowned. It is a mixture of romanesque and gothic, with romanesque columns supporting a tower with a spire. On r. of the nave is the chapel of the lords of Beaujeu. The town has many XIII. c. houses, and an old bridge called *Pont Paradis*.

A road runs W. from Beaujeu to (54 k.) Pouilly, through (25 k.) *Chauffailles*, a considerable commercial town in pretty country.

The wine of the Beaujolais has a European celebrity.

‘On a constaté que tous les crus renommés de ces coteaux sont obtenus par les vignerons sur un pilon de porphyre granitoïde; ils ont une finesse et un bouquet particulier qui n’existent pas dans les vins provenant des terrains carbonifères. Les cultivateurs le savent si bien, qu’ils transportent fréquemment sur les terres voisines l’arène décomposée du porphyre. La différence des plantes entre aussi pour beaucoup dans celle des crus. On distingue les deux grandes variétés du “pineau” qui donne les excellents vins et du “gamey” qui produit

des vins ordinaires et remplace la qualité par l'abondance.'—*Élisée Reclus.*]

478 k. *Villefranche* (Hotels : *de Provence ; de l'Europe ; du Faucon*), a town which had great privileges in early times from its lords (de Beaujeu) : amongst others—'Tout habitant de Villefranche a le droit de battre sa femme pourvu que la mort ne s'ensuive pas.' The church of *Notre Dame-des-Marais* is said to have been founded in a marsh because an image of the Virgin, found there by some shepherds, miraculously returned to its original position, after they had carried it away. It was begun at the end of xiv. c., finished xvi. c. ; the square tower is earlier. The *Hôtel Dieu* is of 1666.

Villefranche is the station for (9 k.) *Ars*, which the wonderful life of its late curé—Jean-Baptiste-Marie-Vianney—has rendered a place of pilgrimage almost equally interesting to religious Catholics and Protestants. Born at Dardilly, near Lyons, in 1786, ordained 1814, Vianney began his sacred duties as vicaire at Écully. In 1818 he was made Curé d'Ars.

'Oh ! comme il aime d'abord ses paroissiens ! À peine installé au milieu d'eux, il voulut tout voir avec ses yeux, tout connaître avec son cœur, tout rejouer par sa présence, se faire tout à tous, pour les gagner tous à Jésus-Christ. C'est le sublime devoir du pasteur ; il ne croyait jamais l'avoir assez rempli. Sa charité, qui songeait à tout, savait se servir de tout. Il ne se contentait pas de ses rapports généraux où le prêtre étant l'homme de tout le monde n'est pas assez l'homme de chacun ; il saisissait la moindre occasion de donner individuellement à ses paroissiens les marques privées et directes de son estime et de son dévouement en sorte que chacun pouvait se croire uniquement aimé. Ouvert, complaisant, affable envers tous, sans descendre de sa dignité et sans cesser un instant d'être prêtre, il n'aurait pas rencontré un enfant dans la rue sans s'arrêter pour le saluer et lui adresser,

à travers un sourire, quelques mots aimables. On sait combien cette conduite est appréciée à la compagne.

‘La visite des ses paroissiens l’occupait aussi dans certaines limites. Il ne se contentait pas d’aller où on l’appelait, il se présentait même là où on ne l’appelait pas, mais toujours d’une façon très-discrète, attendant les occasions favorables ou les faisant naître. Il choisissait volontiers l’heure des repas, afin de trouver toute la famille réunie, et pour ne causer ni dérangement ni surprise, il s’annonçait de loin, en appelant par son nom de baptême, avec une douce familiarité, le maître de la maison; puis il entrait, faisait signe à tout le monde de continuer, d’un geste qui n’admettait pas de réplique, s’appuyait un instant contre un meuble, et après avoir demandé des nouvelles de tout ce qui pouvait intéresser la famille, par une transition ménagée avec autant d’adresse que de douceur, il en venait à parler des choses divines auxquelles son âme était continuellement appliquée.’—*Abbé Monnin.*

Gradually Ars became a veritable Christian oasis. Public-houses were shut up, an oath was never heard, the curé laid out the whole of his little patrimony in establishing his ‘Providence’—a Female Orphan Asylum. With an almost infantine joy he saw chapel after chapel added to his little old church. Sunday at Ars became observed as it is in England.

‘Je me trouvais à Ars au temps de la fenaison. Sauf quelques rares éclaircies, qui avaient permis aux habitants de faucher leurs prés, la semaine avait été pluvieuse; le fourrage n’avait pu être rentré le samedi, qu’il n’était pas sec. Le dimanche, bien que la journée fût magnifique, et que la récolte eût été exposée aux mauvais temps toute la semaine, on ne vit pas un faneur dans les champs. Le territoire d’Ars était couvert au loin de tas de foin qui ne furent pas même remuées. Je rencontrai un brave homme à qui je me permis de dire pour l’éprouver: “Mais, mon ami, votre recolte va se gâter?”—“Je ne crains rien,” répondit-il. “Dieu qui me l’a donnée, est assez bon et assez puissant pour me la conserver. Notre saint curé ne veut pas que nous travaillions le dimanche; nous devons lui obéir? Dieu bénit comme toujours cette obéissance. Les habitants d’Ars, qui vivent du produit de leurs champs, voient

augmenter assez rapidement leur aisance ; il n'y a que ceux qui se cachent pour enfreindre la loi du dimanche qui se ruinent ; car disait un brave homme, chez nous le respect humain est *retourné*."—*L'Abbé Renard*.

To the establishment of the 'Providence' were due the 'catéchismes,' which attracted multitudes to Ars for more than thirty years. When the *Angelus* rang, after the dinner of the establishment, as soon as the one large room was cleared, the Curé seated himself at a table, his audience gathered round him, and he spoke to them for an hour.

'Chaque jour, un nombre croissant d'étrangers venait se joindre à la portion stable de l'assistance. Tous écoutaient cette parole avec une religieuse attention, un grand contentement et un sensible profit pour leurs âmes. C'était un genre d'éloquence tout à fait à part, qui saisissait fortement les esprits et s'emparait immédiatement des coeurs. C'était l'Évangile avec ses paraboles, ses comparaisons et ce caractère unique et admirable de suffire aux contemplations des plus hautes intelligences et d'être, en même temps, accessible à l'adoration des âmes les plus simples. Il était dès lors très-difficile de fixer par l'écriture les vérités que le Curé d'Ars prêchait, tant elles étaient saintes et d'un ordre élevé, tant elles s'éloignaient de la manière ordinaire de penser et de dire. On sortait de ces entretiens, le coeur plein, l'âme attendrie. On se promettait d'être fidèle à revenir le lendemain goûter cette céleste nourriture.'—*Monnin*.

Meantime the personal self-denial of the Curé was exaggerated, though admirable. There was always a difficulty in persuading him to take even the necessary food : when new clothes were given to him, he was always hopeless in giving them to the poor ; his pillow, mattress, bed, went in the same way, till at last he renounced even his chamber and slept in an outhouse ; if good food was given him, he would exchange it for the contents of beggars' wallets ; often one or two boiled potatoes were his sole nourishment.

"J'ai un bon *cadavre* ; je suis dur," he said. "Après que j'ai mangé n'importe quoi, ou que j'ai dormi deux heures, je puis recommencer. Quand on a donné quelque chose à un cheval, il



se remet à trotter comme si de rien n'était ; et le cheval ne se couche presque jamais."

'Un jour, un pauvre arrêta M. Vianney au moment où il sortait de la *Providence*. Ce pauvre avait les pieds à vif et tout ensanglantés. Le bon Curé ôte ses souliers et ses bas, les lui donne, et regagne son presbytère comme il peut, ayant soin de se baisser, afin de dissimuler sous les plis de sa soutane traînante ses pieds et ses jambes nus.'

Still, the life which the Curé led could not but affect his health as years went on, though his constitution had a power of rallying from attacks of illness, no one knew how—

" " Je ne me trouble plus sur sa santé," disait le médecin, " elle relève d'un autre que moi, et quand je ne peux plus rien, *cet autre* peut encore. Au moment où il semble qu'il va nous échapper, il reprend soudain et comme par enchantement de nouvelles forces."

The pilgrimages to Ars, which have never since ceased, began in 1825. Many were brought by curiosity, many by reports of miraculous cures, most by the extraordinary power of M. Vianney as a confessor—to seek relief in trouble or despondency, from one who was able to give it.

'On commença à se dire dans le voisinage combien le Curé d'Ars était doux envers les coupables, patient envers les scrupuleux, indulgent envers les faibles, compatissant envers les malheureux, secourable envers tous. Les pécheurs venaient trouver ce bon prêtre, qui les accueillait en pleurant ; les pauvres accouraient vers ses mains bienfaisantes, qui n'avaient rien à donner et qui donnaient toujours ; les affligés savaient que ses lèvres étaient une source abondante de lumière et de consolations ; ceux qui étaient agités de doutes savaient qu'elles donnaient une force victorieuse à la vérité. Les justes venaient aussi, car son coeur était le foyer d'amour auquel se rechauffaient tous les coeurs.'—*Monnin*.

At that time there were no good roads to Ars, and no accommodation on arriving there (the group of houses round the church dates from 1832, the road from 1835), but soon as many as

80,000 pilgrims arrived annually, from every country of Europe—simply attracted by what they had heard from others, for no newspaper had mentioned the Curé d'Ars.

‘Les grands affluent à Ars comme les petits, pour peu que la main de Dieu ou celle des hommes les ait meurtris. Les veuves et les orphelins, les heureux et les malheureux ; les jeunes gens pleins d’illusions et les vieillards blasés, les hommes dégoûtés du monde et les femmes lasses de frivolités, les pécheurs surtout y accourent en foule, attirés par une vertu et une science également surnaturelles à leurs yeux. On compte même beaucoup de curieux et quelques opposants. On y rencontre les complications les plus bizarres et les contrastes les plus heurtés ; des vertus au milieu des vices, sous les dehors qui font envie, des misères qui pitié, des situations sans issue si ce n’est par la voie du Calvaire, des malheurs sans espoir si ce n’est du côté du ciel.

‘Le Curé d'Ars voyait, tous les jours et tout le long du jour, défiler sous ses yeux ces interminables séries d’embarras et d’infortunes, ces variétés du monde, dont la tristesse est toujours le fond. Son âme en était douloureusement affectée, et le soir venu, quand il se trouvait dans sa chambre, en compagnie des missionnaires, il se laissait aller à toute sa sensibilité ; il fondait en larmes : “Il faut venir à Ars,” disait-il, “pour savoir ce que c’est que le péché, pour juger du mal qu’Adam a fait de sa pauvre famille. On ne sait qu’y faire ; on ne peut que pleurer et prier.”’

It was by the wonderful sympathy of the Curé, by his earnest pleading, by the affectionate tones of his voice, that such marvellous effects were produced at Ars. One day his tears flowed abundantly over a sinner who remained unmoved at his feet :—

‘Regardant son confesseur avec étonnement : “Mais, mon père,” dit-il, “qu’avez-vous tant à pleurer ?” “Ah ! mon ami,” lui répondit le saint prêtre, “je pleure de ce que vous ne pleurez pas.”’

Equally remarkable was his power of giving comfort—

‘La puissance de consolation du bon saint était immense. Il n’avait qu’à parler, et d’un mot il atteignait le mal dans sa racine ; il cicatrisait la blessure ; il endormait la douleur ; il

adoucissait tout ce qu'il y avait de cuisant et d'enflammé dans les regrets, d'âpre et de rongeur dans les ressentiments et les colères, et cela sans faste et sans emphase, sans ces dehors qui aident le discours, qui imposent, qui persuadent ou qui gagnent les cœurs. Il ne cherchait rien et ne disait rien de lui-même ; c'est Dieu qui parlait, pas lui, et qui rendait sa parole efficace.'

One case is remembered of a Curé of the diocese of Autun, who, long perplexed about a certain matter, came to ask counsel at Ars. A word from M. Vianney seemed to make all clear at once. "'Mais, M. le Curé, où avez-vous donc fait votre théologie ?'" M. Vianney lui montra silencieusement son prie-dieu.' Out of the eighteen or twenty hours of his working-day, the Curé d'Ars only took time for private prayer, for his missal and breviary, and for a semblance of meal at noon. All the rest was spent in the confessional. Sixteen hours daily were given to its exhausting duties.

When the Curé had ended his day's work, at nine in summer and seven in winter, a number of women who had not been able to reach him, would wait in the vestibule, facing the parsonage, till the gates re-opened, which was about midnight. Others waited to catch him between the parsonage and the church, for a single passing word of advice or comfort. To reach the church was for M. Vianney a work of time and difficulty. Volunteer police kept the way to the confessional ; the candidates were let in, one by one, through a barrier. If the people became disorderly, the Curé quickly left his place and knelt at the altar till all was quiet again.

At 6 or 7 a.m. the Curé left the confessional and said mass, penetrating the dense crowd with difficulty. Then he took his breakfast—only a little milk ; after which he confessed thirty or forty men, who had been waiting. At 10, after reciting his hours in the sacristy, he gave his attention to the sick, or to passing strangers. At 11 he preached—in his native rural idiom. At such times he seemed utterly unconscious of himself. 'Quel maître avez-vous en théologie?' someone once ironically asked : 'Le même maître que S. Pierre.' He always preached without preparation.

'Ce qui caractérisait ces discours, c'était un mélange d'exalta-

tion et de sensibilité, de foi vive et ardente, de zèle impétueux, d'où résultait, dans le prédicateur, l'onction à sa plus haute puissance, et dans l'auditeur, l'émotion à son plus haut degré.

'Ce qui ajoutait à l'éloquence de la voix, c'était l'éloquence du corps; ce front large, entouré d'une auréole de cheveux blancs, ces traits fortement profilés, cette expression béatifique qui faisait le fond de la physionomie du saint homme, et surtout le feu incessamment mobile de son regard portait avec soi une sorte de fascination surnaturelle, sous laquelle nous avons vu souvent les plus fiers esprits se courber irrésistiblement, et le scepticisme se déclarer vaincu.

'Les prédications du Curé d'Ars commençaient par Notre-Seigneur Jésus-Christ et finissaient par lui. Il l'avait toujours devant les yeux; il l'avait toujours sur ses lèvres parce qu'il l'avait toujours dans le cœur.'

The afternoon of the Curé was like the morning. A way had to be made for him by two attendants through the increasing crowds. His missionaries were visited and conferred with. Then he said vespers in the church; heard confessions till 5 p.m., and then, till night, gave audience to women unable to come at other times.

'On pourrait supposer que des travaux si absorbants et si continuels détournaient forcément le Curé d'Ars de l'attention à donner à chaque âme en particulier; on se tromperait. Il n'était pas un seul de ses pénitents qui ne pût se croire l'objet d'une sollicitude spéciale. Au milieu de cette presse toujours près dégénérer en cohue, il entendait la personne qui était à ses pieds comme s'il n'avait rien eu d'autre à faire; il donnait, il est vrai, peu de temps à chacun de ses pénitents, afin d'en avoir pour tous; il préférerait les revoir plus souvent et les entendre moins long temps. La grâce accompagnait ses moindres paroles. Il savait l'endroit du cœur où il fallait frapper; et le trait manquait rarement son but.'

In his latter years the Curé was often astounded by the crowds who came to visit him. He frequently longed to fly and hide himself, especially if anything like flattery had been addressed to him. Once he did fly, and took refuge in his native



village of Dardilly, but was brought back by the mandate of his bishop. He never could be induced to understand his own usefulness.

“ Dieu m'a fait,” disait-il, “ cette grande miséricorde de ne rien mettre en moi sur quoi je puisse m'appuyer, ni talent, ni science, ni sagesse, ni force, ni vertu. . . . Je ne découvre en moi, quand je me considère, que mes pauvres péchés. Encore le bon Dieu



ARS.

permet-il que je ne les voie pas tous, et que je ne me connaisse pas tout entier. Cette vue me ferait tomber dans le désespoir. Je n'ai d'autre ressource contre cette tentation du désespoir, que de me jeter au pied du tabernacle, *comme un petit chien aux pieds de son maître.*”

In 1850, the Curé grew feebler and feebler. All his strength seemed concentrated in his eyes, which sparkled with all their old vigour. The heat of July made the chapel of the confessional suffocating. He constantly fainted. On July 29, however, he

went through his usual routine—his sixteen hours of confessional, and ended the day with prayer. On reaching home he was terribly exhausted. As he sank into his chair he said—‘Je n’en peux plus!’ But at 1 a.m. he tried to go to the church as usual. His excessive weakness prevented him—‘Vous êtes fatigué, M. le Curé?’ ‘Oui, je crois que c’est *ma pauvre fin*.’ On the following evening he received the last sacraments, and at 1 a.m. he passed away.

None but those who visit Ars can realize this holy and touching life, which can only be judged by its fruits; but at Ars the work of M. Vianney is still carried on, and there is still a concourse thither from all parts of the world, for ‘retreat,’ for counsel, and for confession. The ancient church of the Curé still stands, with a magnificent modern church—Sanctuaire de S. Philumène—erected by the Empress Eugénie and the bishops, rising behind it. The village itself is a succession of hotels, but picturesque, and embosomed in vines. The little church is approached through its courtyard, thronged, as of old, with beggars. As we enter, the grave of the Curé is seen in the middle of the floor: it is near the confessional where ‘he consummated his martyrdom.’ At the side are the little chapels which he built to mark the different crises of his life. That of S. Philumène is filled with memorials of maimed and halt pilgrims. Throngs of pilgrims still pass in and out; and a missionary still addresses them on the character of Christ as a loving Saviour.

Close by is the Presbytery. The room of the Curé is railed off, because otherwise the pilgrims would have carried everything away. As it is, they have almost undermined the old stone walls by picking out fragments as relics. But the room can be well seen from the barrier, with its lowly bed, its few books and pictures. Below is the still poorer room, where his people saw him in his death-slumber; and the little court, shaded by old elder trees, in which he administered his incessant charities.

482 k. *Anse*, the ancient Roman station of Antium. Augustus built a palace here, and several Roman fragments remain. The ordinary observer will have seen nothing in this district to justify the proverb—

‘ De Villefranche à Anse  
La plus belle lieue en France.’

487 k. *Trévoux*, on the site of a Gallo-Roman town. It formed part of the principality of Dombes, given by La Grande Mademoiselle to the Duc du Maine.

492 k. *S. Germain-au-Mont-d'Or*. 5 k. is *Chasselay*, with two gothic gateways and ruins of a castle.

495 k. *Neuville*, formerly the capital of Franc-Lyonnais, a sort of republic which enjoyed various immunities. The neighbouring castle of *Albigny* (r.) has a dungeon and fortified chapel.

497 k. *Couzon*, with a handsome modern church of S. Maurice. Beyond this, on the l. bank of the Saône, is *Rochetaillée*, where the rock is supposed to have been cut by Agrippa, to render the river more navigable.

504 k. *L'Île-Barbe* (Insula Barbara). A suspension bridge crosses the Saône to the S. point of the picturesque island. The oft-restored chapel of *Notre Dame-de-Grâce* is of the end of XII. c. The *Castle* is XV. c., with a gateway of XIV. c. A pavilion of XV. c. is shown as that where Charlemagne sat to see his army defile upon the r. bank of the river. At *S. Cyr-au-Mont-d'Or*, a little E., are some XIII. c. remains of a palace of the bishops of Lyon.

507 k. *Lyon Vaise*—the goods station.

512 k. *Lyon*. *Lyon-Perrache* (Hotels: *Grand*—Rue de la République; *de l'Europe*—1, Rue de Bellecour, the only hotel with a fine view: table d'hôte, luncheon, and dinner at little private tables; *Collet*—62, Rue de la République; *de Bellecour*—Place de Bellecour; *du Globe*—21, Rue Gasparin; *de Toulouse*—23, Rue du Midi; *de la Poste*—3, Rue de Barre; *des Négociants* [3 fr. 50 c. a day]

—1, Rue des Quatre Chapeaux, good). Carriages, 1 fr. 25 c. and 1 fr. 50 c. the course; 1 fr. 50 c. and 2 frs. the first hour.

‘Lyon est situé, comme toutes grandes villes de manufacture, à ce point précis des territoires où le sol, les cultures, les combustibles, le feu, les eaux, et les populations touffues fournissent tous les éléments et tous les bras nécessaires à un grand travail, et où les vallées, les plaines, les routes, et les fleuves s’ouvrent, se ramifient et coulent pour porter et distribuer les produits aux provinces et aux mers. La géographie et l’industrie se comprennent et semblent combiner l’assiette de ces vastes ateliers humains.

‘Le site militaire de Lyon est conforme à son site commercial. Une haute presqu’île, appelée la Dombes, s’étend de Trévoux d’un côté et de Meximieux de l’autre, entre deux grands cours d’eau, la Rhône et la Saône. Cette langue de terre fertile court, en se rétrécissant toujours, jusqu’à un plateau élevé, appelé la Croix-Rousse, faubourg de Lyon. Là, le plateau, rongé presque à pic par les deux fleuves, s’affaisse tout à coup, descend en rampes rapides et s’étend ensuite en plaine basse et triangulaire jusqu’au confluent des deux eaux. Cette plaine étroite et longue est le corps de la ville.

‘La ville, trop reserrée par les deux rivières, a franchi sa première enceinte, et, pour ainsi dire, débordé de la presqu’île du côté de la Saône. Sa cathédrale, ses tribunaux et ses quartiers les plus paisibles sont jetés et entassés entre la montagne et la rivière. Des rues sont dressées comme des échelles contre les pentes. Les maisons semblent grimper contre le roc et se suspendre aux flancs des collines. Plusieurs ponts, les uns de pierre, les autres de bois, font communiquer entre eux ces deux quartiers de la ville.

‘Entre les quais du Rhône et les quais de la Saône s’étend la ville proprement dite, avec ses quartiers populeux, ses places, ses rues, ses établissements publics, son hôtel de ville, ses marchés, ses hôpitaux, ses théâtres. L’espace étroite a pressé les rangs, entassé et amoncelé les édifices. On voit que partout la population, les ateliers, l’activité, la richesse, le travail ont disputé la place à l’air et à la lumière, choses sans prix dans le commerce.



En entrant dans la ville, son aspect sombre, austère et monacal, saisit le coeur. Les chambres étroites, les maisons hautes, le jour rare, les murs enfumés, les portes basses, les fenêtres aux châssis de papier huilé pour épargner les vitres, les magasins obstrués de caisses et de ballots, le mouvement affairé, le visage soucieux et préoccupé de citoyens qui ne perdent point le temps en conversations oiseuses, mais qui s'abordent d'un geste et qui se séparent après un mot bref échangé en marchant, l'absence des voitures de luxe, de chevaux, de promeneurs dans les quartiers riches, tout annonce une ville sérieuse, occupé d'une seule pensée, âme de cette ville de travail : cette pensée visible, c'est le gain.' —*Lamartine, 'Histoire des Girondins.'*

'Étrange ville ! Je me rappelle un ciel bas, couleur de suie, une brume perpétuelle montant de deux rivières. Il ne pleut pas, il brouillasse ; et dans l'affadissement d'une atmosphère molle, les murs pleurent, le pavé suint, les rampes d'escalier collent aux doigts. L'aspect de la population, son allure, son langage se ressentent de l'humidité de l'air. Ce sont des teints blafards, des yeux endormis, des paresse de prononciation s'étalant en accents circonflexes, sur des syllabes allongées, je ne sais quoi de veule et de mou dans la voix, dans le geste ; les locutions singulières, mais sans couleur, des façons de parler qu'on ne trouve que là, une *plate* pour dire un lavoir, les *bèches* pour les bains froids, un *gône* pour un gamin. Les noms eux-mêmes ont une physionomie particulière ; Bouverd, Chipié, Mouillard, sont des types de noms bien lyonnais. Polichinelle ne s'appelle pas Polichinelle. Ils l'ont baptisé Guafrou.' —*Alphonse Daudet.*

In size and importance Lyon, formerly capital of the Lyonnais, now of the Département du Rhône, is the second city of France. Old and picturesque Lyon lies along the banks of the Saône ; modern and featureless Lyon on that of the Rhône. Far the finest approach to the city is by steamer on the Saône, whence the old houses are seen rising most picturesquely from the r. bank of the river, overtopped by the hill, and crowned by the church of Fourvière. The

two rivers render the geography of Lyon unusually puzzling; it serves as a guide to remember that the names of streets on black plates are of those which run parallel with the rivers; on yellow plates, of those at right angles to them.

In 590 A.C., a colony was founded at the meeting of the Saône and Rhône by Greeks, expelled from Hérault by the Massiliens, and it received the name of Lugdunum. It became an important city under the Romans, who brought water to it by aqueducts from the mountains of Forez—a distance of 12 leagues. The population was converted by S. Pothinus, and it is said that 18,000 Christians suffered martyrdom there under Septimus Severus. In later times no city has changed its politics so often, no city has been more ready to take a part in every possible revolution.

The list of eminent persons born at Lyon includes: Germanicus; the Emperors Claudius, Marcus Aurelius, Caracalla, and Geta; the Saints Sidonius, Apollinaris, and Ambrose of Milan; in later times Barrême, Philibert Delorme, Coustou, Coysevox, the minister Roland, and Mme. Récamier.

The commercial importance of the town dates from XIV. c., since which its manufactures, especially of silk and velvet, have obtained universal celebrity.

Of late years Protestantism has been greatly on the increase at Lyon.

‘Ce peuple de travailleurs n’est point entassé, comme dans d’autres villes, dans d’immenses ateliers communs où l’homme, traité comme un rouage mécanique, s’avilit dans la foulée, se pervertit par le contact, et s’use par le frottement continu avec d’autres hommes. Chaque atelier de Lyon est une famille composée du mari, de la femme, des enfants. Cette famille va

chercher toutes les semaines l'ouvrage, la soie, les modèles. Les ouvriers emportent chez eux les matières premières, les ourdissent à domicile, et reçoivent, en les rendant aux fabricants, le prix convenu pour chaque pièce de soierie manufacturée.'—*Lamartine, 'Hist. des Girondins.'*

In the centre of the modern town, near the principal hotels, is the handsome *Place Bellecour*, adorned with a



LYON—THE SAÔNE.

statue of Louis XIV. It has always been the fashionable promenade and place of reunion.

'La noblesse et tout le peuple s'y rendent par bandes ; car c'est où se tiennent des concerts, où se pratiquent toutes sortes d'honnêtes galantries, et où se voyent mille beaux visages et mille personnes lestement vestues.'—*Albert Jourvin, 1672.*

Taking the *Place Bellecour* (near which the principal hotels are situated) as a centre, we may cross the Saône, by the Pont de Tilsit, to the *Cathedral of S. Jean*, which

risers very picturesquely above the surrounding buildings. Begun in the end of XII. c., or early XIII. c., it was only finished under Louis XII. It is a very noble early gothic church, of which the apse is the oldest part. The XIV. c. façade has three great portals, with a gallery above, then a rose window, and a gable between two low towers. The want of buttresses makes it too flat in effect.

‘The pedestals of the lacking statues are adorned with a number of charming reliefs in medallions, full of life, and embracing an inconceivable variety of different subjects. Here are all kinds of symbolical scenes, such as the pelican feeding her young with her own blood; fantastic scenes of the most different kinds; Sirens playing on organs; contests between dragons and fabulous creatures; scenes also from animal life, such as the stork drawing the bone from the fox’s throat; lastly, a number of representations from the life of Christ, the martyrdom of the apostles, and similar subjects. In the archivolts there are numerous small, seated figures, similarly fine and pure in style.’—*Lübke*.

The nave, of eight bays, was finished *c.* 1240: it is much more lofty than the choir, which has two rectangular bays, and a seven-sided apse, without side aisles. Round arches are here seen in the lower part of the building, but the upper is completely gothic. Above the triforium, a passage runs round the apse at the level of the upper windows. Two crosses are preserved from the general council of 1274. Some splendid (restored) glass remains from XIII. c. and XIV. c. The *Chapelle S. Louis* or *des Bourbons*, on r., was built by Cardinal de Bourbon and his brother, Pierre de Beaujeu, son-in-law of Louis XI.

‘Les chardons (on écrivait autrefois *cherdons*) qui se reproduisent dans tous les ornemens, sont un jeu de mots en sculpture.



On prétend que Pierre de Bourbon voulait exprimer ainsi que le roi lui avait fait un *chardon* en lui donnant sa fille. Le calembourg est détestable, mais la ciselure est merveilleuse.—*Prosper Mérimée*.

The office was long sung in this cathedral without organ, books, or instruments, as in the first age of Christianity.



LYON, CATHEDRAL.

To the r. of the cathedral façade are remains, with beautifully sculptured romanesque arcades, of the curious building of xi. c. called *La Manécanterie* (singers'-house, mane-cantare), mutilated, like the statues of the cathedral, by the Protestants, and further ruined by restorations. The *Archevêché* is of the end of xv. c.

The *Rue S. Jean* has several interesting houses. No. 37

is a gothic building with a renaissance well in the court ; No. 29 has quaint pine-cone brackets under the windows ; No. 7 is a rich xv. c. house ; No. 1 has quaint reliefs. The Rue S. Jean ends in the *Place du Change*, where No. 2 has good xv. c. windows. The *Loge du Change*, now a Protestant chapel, is of 1749. Behind it, No. 14, *Rue de Cadagne*, is a very remarkable xv. c. house, with a tourelle. No. 22, *Rue Juiverie*, is also a very curious old house. On the r. of these is the church of *S. Paul*, with a romanesque apse, an octagonal tower over the cross, and xv. c. additions. Here begins the *Montée S. Barthélemy*, where No. 1 has a renaissance staircase, with a bust of Henri IV., recalling that he slept in that house.

Ascending the Montée—between houses from which the sound of the weaver's loom recalls the Vaudois, or 'poor men of Lyons,' as they named themselves (followers of Vaud, the weaver)—to the Place de l'Antiquaille, we must turn r. by the Rue Cléburg, then again r. by La Montée de Fourvière, and so reach the chapel and more recent church of *Notre Dame de Fourvière* (de foro vetere), which rises on the site of a Roman forum—the ancient Lyon. The interior is covered with ex-votos to the Madonna, some of them very extraordinary. Close by a magnificent basilica is arising, rich in marbles, and with a sumptuous crypt, a church in itself, adorned with mosaics.

As in pagan times, the worship of the city itself is maintained in its old sanctuary, in buildings ceaselessly renewed. A confraternity, dating from immemorial times, still exists at Fourvière, with the obligation of praying for the city.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Émile Montégut, *En Lyonnais*.

The view is magnificent over town and country, and to the Alpine ranges, in the more distant of which Mont Blanc is visible in clear weather. From the *Maison Caille*, Pius VII. gave his benediction to the city of Lyon.

‘Pour faire contre-poids au plateau de la Croix-Rousse. Voici maintenant le plateau de Fourvières, la montagne religieuse en face de la montagne industrielle. Tout en bas, au pied du coteau, la métropole S. Jean, l’archevêché, les séminaires, un bruit continuel de cloches tombant dans les rues tranquilles, des places désertes traversées aux heures des offices par de longues files de séminaristes en surplis, et les petits clergeons de la maîtrise qui passaient graves, les bras croisés sous leurs camails fourrés d’hermines laissant traîner sur les dalles les longues queues de leurs soutanes rejetées. Ce coin de Lyon m’a laissé l’impression d’un quartier romain. Derrière commençaient des ruelles à pic montant à Fourvières entre des murs de couvents, des jardins de communautés, des portails surmontés de croix ou d’emblèmes, des clochers de chapelles carillonnant dans de la verdure. On rencontrait des processions de paroisses, des confréries en pèlerinages se déroulaient aux détours des rues comme un long ruban blanc ou bleu, avec des gonflements de voiles, des ondulations de bannières et de pèlerines, des éclairs des croix immobiles traversées de lumières; d’autres fois des groupes solitaires, longeant des murs d’un air recueilli, en train d’accomplir quelque vœu. Je me souviens d’une femme en grand deuil, montant pieds nus la côte dure, pavée de cailloux pointus. Visage ascétique, usé de larmes, elle tirait par la main un petit enfant tout en noir aussi, haletant de la course et un peu gêné par les pieds nus de sa mère qu’il regardait avec stupeur.

‘A mesure qu’on approchait de l’église, qui est en haut, des petites boutiques d’objets de piété, d’imagerie religieuse tapisaient les rues de leurs étalages. Des chapelets de corail, de nacre, des coeurs en verroterie, des couronnes de jais, d’immortelles. Puis des petits journaux étranges, le *Rosier de Marie*, l’*Écho du purgatoire*, des prédictions sur papier de

cuisine, le portrait de soeur Rosalie avec ses décorations, du Curé d'Ars fortement colorié, entouré de ses nombreux miracles. C'était aussi derrière les vitres ternes un fouillis de petits bras, de petites jambes en cire blanche, toutes sortes d'ex-voto, de livres bizarres, mystérieux, monstreuses élucubrations de cerveaux malades, rêves de Pascal sans génie, illustrés d'images grossières représentant les supplices de l'enfer, des damnés sur des roues, des squelettes calcinés chargés de chaînes, tout cela dans des brochures jaunies, couleur de cierge, à qui la poussière de l'étalage donnait vite la banalité d'objets forains.

'Mais c'est surtout là-haut, dans la chapelle, qu'il fallait voir les ex-voto et les images ! Quel encombrement de choses touchantes ou comiques, de tableaux inoubliables pendus aux piliers, expliqués par des légendes reconnaissantes, ou abandonnés tout entiers au vague du miracle. Des naufragés, des aveugles, des amputés, des convertis, M. de Ratisbonne illuminé par la foi, à genoux, les bras en croix. . . . En haut, sur le dôme de la chapelle, Notre Dame de Fourvières toute en or, dominant le Lyon catholique avec ses couvents, ses congrégations, ses communautés, ses confréries et les innombrables sociétés religieuses sans règle ni costume répandues par toute la ville et donnant aux relations du monde lyonnais je ne sais quel ton demi-clérical, des habitudes de douceur triste et d'yeux baissés.'—*Alphonse Daudet, 'Études et Paysages.'*

On the lower heights (r. in descending) is the church of *S. Bruno*, begun 1590, and belonging to the Chartreuse.

Some distance behind the Fourvière, is *S. Irenée*, which scarcely preserves a trace of antiquity. Only a very ancient crypt remains, with a mosaic pavement much injured by the Protestants of the Baron des Adrets, who upturned it in 1562, to search for treasures. In the midst is shown an opening through which it is said the bones of 19,000 martyrs, put to death by order of Septimus Severus, were thrown into a well.

'Je restai immobile au milieu de l'église, examinant tous ces autels étincelants d'or et d'argent. La soirée était venue. Tout



commençait à se brouiller autour de moi, tout était silencieux; soudain, les portes s'ouvrirent, et les frères du silence parurent, habillés de blanc. Les yeux baissés à terre, ils s'avancèrent à la file, lentement, vers le maître autel; et en passant devant une cloche suspendue dans l'église, ils la frappaient d'une main débile. Le son lugubre de la cloche, répercuté par ces sombres voûtes, éveilla en moi l'idée de la mort. Je sortis, je vis le soleil couchant, et mon coeur fut consolé.'—*Karamsine, 'Lettres d'un Voyageur Russe, 1789-90.'*

Recrossing the Saône, and then turning l., we reach, opposite the Pont de Nemours, the Rue d'Albon, which leads immediately to *S. Nizier*, the first cathedral of Lyon, where S. Pothinus is said to have celebrated mass in a crypt which still exists (restored xiv. c.). The church of xiv. c. consists of a nave with side-aisles, a narrower transept, and three apses. The façade has two low towers with gothic spires, and between them an unworthy renaissance portal by Philibert Delorme. A very rich dark triforium surrounds the interior of the church. In the (r. transept) *Chapelle de la Vierge* is a statue of the Virgin by A. Coysevox: that of S. Pothinus, in a chapel in the l. transept, is by the Lyon sculptor Chinard.

The Rue S. Pierre leads hence to the Church of *S. Pierre*, which formerly belonged to a Benedictine Abbey; it is xvii. c., with a very fine romanesque portal.

Close by is the Place des Terreaux, which contains the *Hôtel de Ville*, of 1646-55. On r. is the *Palais des Beaux-Arts*, open to the public on Thursdays, Sundays, and fête-days from 11 to 4, and always to strangers with a passport. It is a fine building, surrounding a garden court with cloisters full of Roman altars, sarcophagi, urns, etc. The *Galerie de Peinture* (on the upper floor) is gene-

rally superior to those of all other French provincial towns, besides possessing one of the finest pictures in France. We may notice—

*École Française—*

53. *Jouvenet*. The Money Changers expelled from the Temple.

*École Flamande—*

188. *Albert Dürer*? Maximilian I. and his wife Catherine meeting before the Virgin and Child, who crown them with roses.  
 233. *Rubens*. SS. Francis and Dominic protecting the world from the anger of Jesus Christ—ridiculous in inspiration, but rich in tone and colour.  
 234. *Rubens*. The Coming of the Magi.  
 253. *Terburg*. The Message.

*École Espagnole—*

152. *Zurbaran*. S. François d'Assisi, as he was preserved after death.

*Ecole Italienne—*

100. *Guercino*. The Circumcision, painted for his native Cento.  
 102. *Palma Vecchio*. Portrait of his Daughter.  
 130. *Tintoret*. Danae.  
 155. *Perugino* (Pietro Vannucci). SS. James and Gregory.  
 \* 156. *Perugino*. The Ascension. A magnificent picture painted in 1493 for the high-altar of S. Pietro at Perugia, and given by Pius VII. to the city of Lyon. The upper part of the picture is too earthly, the Saviour, in a 'mandorla' of cherub heads, being occupied with those He leaves, and the angels conventional in their attitudes. But the figures below are marvellous in their individuality. In the centre is the Madonna, lost in contemplation of the ascending Saviour. S. Peter, on one side, also gazes—half-dazzled and upwards. S. Paul, with sword and book, is absorbed, and sees nothing. He did not witness the event, and his presence here shows that no

historic representation is intended ; which is also shown by the presence of Matthias, not chosen an apostle at the time of the Ascension. What we see is the 'glorious company of the Apostles' bearing witness to the article of faith.

Turning r. from the *Hôtel de Ville* we reach *S. Bonaventura*, in the Place des Cordeliers, a flamboyant church, in great part rebuilt. We may proceed behind this, by the Rhône quays to the *Hôtel Dieu* (Quai de l'Hôpital), founded by Childebert, son of Clovis, in vi. c. The buildings are of 1737—1842. An altar is placed under a dome, from which all the wards radiate, so that all the patients can see the officiating priest at the same time. Hence, crossing the end of the Place Bellecour, we find, in the Rue de la Charité, the *Hospice de la Charité*, 1614-24. The Rue S. Michel leads l. from the other end of the Place Bellecour to l. *S. Martin d'Ainay* (Athanacum), formerly belonging to the abbey of the name. This church, lately restored, is the oldest in Lyon, having been consecrated in 1107, after a considerable restoration of an earlier church of the beginning of the x. c., of which date are the crypt and the four granite columns of the choir—columns said to have belonged to the temple which was raised to Augustus by the hundred tribes of Gaul.

The façade, which is decorated with a band of red lozenges, has a tower in the centre. Another rises between the nave and the choir. The interior is dark and impressive. The church has a basilica form now, but was probably a Latin cross originally. A gothic xv. c. chapel is built upon the l. transept, and the sacristy occupies the r. Hence we descend to the crypt, which is said to have been the prison

of Pothinus and Blandina, a cellar measuring 9 ft. by 4 ft. The mosaic of Pascal II., which once existed here, has disappeared, but there are some remains of the inscription—

‘Huc, huc, flecte genu, veniens quicumque precario.

Hic pax est, hic vita, salus, hic sanctificaris,’ etc.

‘While we all feared, and while, among the rest, her mistress, according to the flesh, who was herself one of the noble army of martyrs, dreaded that she would not be able to witness a good confession, because of the weakness of her body, Blandina was endued with such fortitude, that those, who successively tortured her from morning till night, were quite worn out with fatigue, owning themselves conquered, and that they had exhausted their whole apparatus of tortures, and amazed to see her still breathing, whilst her body was torn and laid open. But the blessed woman seemed to find it an evident refreshment, support, and an annihilation of all her pains to affirm, “I am a Christian, and no evil is committed among us.”

‘The holy Pothinus, bishop of Lyon, upwards of ninety years old, and very infirm and asthmatic, yet strong in spirit, and longing for martyrdom, was dragged before the tribunal, his body indeed being worn out by age and disease, but his soul one through which the cause of Christ would triumph. Borne by the soldiers to the tribunal, and accompanied by the magistrates and all the multitude, shouting against him as if he were Christ Himself, he made a good confession of faith. Being asked by the governor, who was the God of the Christians, he answered, “If ye be worthy, ye shall know.” Then he was mercilessly dragged about, and suffered variety of ill-treatment; those who were nearest insulted him with their hands and feet, without the least respect to his age; and those at a distance threw at him whatever came to hand: everyone looked upon himself as deficient in zeal, if he did not insult him in some way or other; for thus they imagined that they avenged the cause of their gods. He was almost lifeless when he was thrown into prison, and after two days he expired.

‘An extra day of the shows being given to the people on our account, Maturis and Sanctus again underwent various tortures



in the amphitheatre, as if they had suffered nothing before. They sustained again, as they were led to the amphitheatre, the blows usually inflicted on those condemned to wild animals, they were exposed to be dragged and torn by the beasts, and to all the barbarities which the savage populace demanded, above all, to the hot iron chair, in which their bodies were roasted. Nor was



LYON, S. MARTIN-D'AINAY.

this all : the persecutors raged still more, if possible, to conquer their endurance. But not a word could be extorted from Sanctus, except that of confession, which he had at first uttered, and after lingering a long time, they at length expired, having presented a spectacle to the world, equal in variety to that which is usual in gladiatorial fights.

'Meantime Blandina, bound to a stake, was also exposed to the wild beasts. She was bound in the form of a cross, and employed in ardent prayer. None of the beasts at that time touched her, so she was taken down from the stake, and thrown again into prison, to be reserved for a future contest. . . . On the last day of the show, she was brought in again with Ponticus, a boy of fifteen, who had daily been brought with her to behold the sufferings of the rest. They were commanded to swear by the idols, and when the mob saw that they remained firm, and despised their threats, their fury was so excited, that no mercy was shown either to the sex of the one, or the youth of the other. Their sufferings were increased by every imaginable torture, the whole chapter of agony was exhausted, but all was powerless to move them. Ponticus, encouraged by his sister to the end, at length gave up his spirit.

'Then the blessed Blandina, the last of all, having like a mother exhorted her children, and sent them before her victorious into the presence of the King, having watched over all their sufferings, prepared for the pains of death herself, rejoicing as one going to a marriage feast, not as one to be devoured by wild beasts. Having endured scourging, the tearing of the beasts, and the iron chair, she was inclosed in a net, and thrown to a bull, when, after having been long tossed by the animal, raised beyond pain through the power of hope and realization of her fellowship with Christ, she at last expired. Even her enemies confessed that no woman among them had ever before shown such endurance.'—*'Epistle of the Churches of Vienne and Lyon to the brethren in Asia and Phrygia.'*

'Du sang fécond des martyrs lyonnais et viennois étaient nées de nouvelles églises : Benignus (saint Bénigne), après avoir fondé les Églises d'Autun et de Langres, mourut pour l'Évangile à Dijon (Divio) ; Marcellus (saint Marcel) fonda l'église de Châlon : Ferreolus (saint Ferréol) celle de Besançon ; Félix celle de Valence. L'église de Lyon resta la métropole de toutes ces sociétés chrétiennes, par la gloire de la science comme par la gloire du martyre.'—*Henri Martin, 'Hist. de France.'*

The point of junction of the two rivers was always sacred.

'Vidi duobus imminens fluvis jugum,  
 Quod Phoebus ortu semper obverso videt,  
 Ubi Rhodanus ingens amne praerapido finit,  
 Ararque dubitans quo suos cursus agat  
 Tacitus quietis alluit ripas vadis.'—*Seneca.*

'C'est au siècle dernier seulement que le confluent des deux fleuves a été reporté par l'ingénieur Perrache à près de deux kilomètres et demi en aval de l'église d'Ainay et que la longue péninsule appelée de nos jours du nom de celui qui l'a conquise, a été attachée à la terre ferme ; les îles basses et les fonds marécageux qui se succédaient au-dessous de la pointe ont été consolidés, mais c'est toujours là, comme autrefois, que pèsent le plus lourdement les épais brouillards qui s'amassent fréquemment sur la ville. Séparé du reste de Lyon par le chemin de fer de la Méditerranée, le quartier de Perrache forme pour la ville tout entière une sorte de remise : c'est là que se trouvent l'arsenal, l'usine à gaz, la gare des marchandises, les bassins où s'arrêtent les bateaux de la Saône. Lors des grandes inondations, c'est le quartier le plus exposé à la fureur des deux fleuves qui se rencontrent en aval de la pointe.'—*Élisée Reclus.*

[An excursion S. may be made, by (9 k.) *S. Genis-Laval*, with remains of ancient fortifications, to the remains of the Roman aqueduct at *Garon*, *Chaponost*, and *Izeron* (les arcs de Bonnant). At Chaponost are 76 arches, though the series is often interrupted. Several views of the aqueduct have much picturesque beauty.]

[An excursion may be made to the remains of the abbey of *Savigny* by taking the railway to the station of (18 k.) *Sain-Bel*, on the line to Montbrison. 2 k. is Savigny, a once famous Benedictine abbey. The church of *S. André* is romanesque. Only the apse remains of *S. Martin*, and some of the walls of the nave and tower of *Notre Dame*. There are also remains of a cloister, of the abbot's gateway, and of the *Tour de l'Horloge*.]

[5 k. E. on the line to S. Étienne is the station of *Oullins*, near which are the *Château de la Bussière*, said to have been built by Henri IV. for the wife of a draper of Lyon ; the xviii. c. *Château de l'Archevêché*, now a Dominican school ; and the *Château de Grand-Perron*, built by Antoine Gondi in 1520, and now an hospital. The priory church of *Taluyers* has a fine xii. c. tower.]

## CHAPTER II.

*PARIS TO LYON, BY THE CHEMIN DE FER DU BOURBONNAIS—NEMOURS, MONTARGIS, GIEN, LA CHARITÉ, NEVERS, MOULINS (SOUVIGNY, BOURBON, L'ARCHAMBAULT, VICHY, THIERS, S. ÉTIENNE) AND ROANNE.*

THIS line—which varies the oft-travelled road to the south in an agreeable manner, though the country for a great distance is flat and ugly—branches off from the line by Dijon and Mâcon (see ch. i.) at—

67 k. *Moret*, and passing through part of the forest of Fontainebleau, reaches—

87 k. *Nemours* (Hotel: *de l'Écu*), on the Loing, made by Charles VIII. into a duchy, of which one of the Orléans Princes now bears the title. The ancient collegiate *Church* is xv. c. and xvi. c., with a xiii. c. porch, and a tall slated spire. The *Château*, which belonged to the Princes of Savoie, Ducs de Nemours, is xv. c., with an entrance of xvi. c. The principal building is square, flanked by round towers, and united by dwelling apartments to a small square donjon. The suburb of *S. Pierre* has a xiii. c. church.

‘Du côté du Gâtinais, Nemours est dominé par une colline le long de laquelle s'étendent la route de Montargis et le Loing. L'église, sur les pierres le laquelle le temps a jeté son riche



manteau noir, car elle a sans doute été rebâtie au XIV<sup>e</sup> siècle par les Guises, pour lesquels Nemours fut érigé en duché-pairie, se dresse au bout de la petite ville, au bas d'une grande arche qui l'encadre. Pour les monuments comme pour les hommes, la position fait tout. Ombragée par quelques arbres, et mise en relief par une place propre, cette église solitaire produit un effet grandiose. . . .

'En traversant la France, où l'oeil est si promptement lassé par la monotonie des plaines, qui n'a pas eu la charmante sensation d'apercevoir en haut d'une côte, à sa descente ou à sa tournant, alors qu'elle promettait un paysage aride, une fraîche vallée arrosée par une rivière et une petite ville abritée sous un rocher comme une ruche dans le creux d'un vieux saule? En entendant le *hue!* du postillon qui marche le long de ses chevaux, on secoue le sommeil, on admire comme un rêve dans le rêve quelque beau paysage qui devient pour le voyageur ce qu'est pour le lecteur le passage remarquable d'un livre, une brillante pensée de la nature. Telle est la sensation qui cause la vue soudaine de Nemours en y venant de la Bourgogne. On la voit de là cerclée par des roches pelées, grises, blanches, noires, de formes bizarres, comme il s'en trouve tant dans la forêt de Fontainebleau, et d'où s'élancent des arbres épars qui se détachent nettement sur le ciel et donnent à cette espèce de muraille écroulée une physionomie agreste. Là se termine la longue colline forestière qui rampe de Nemours à Bouron en côtoyant la route. Au bas de ce cirque informe s'étale une prairie où court le Loing en formant des nappes à cascades. Ce délicieux paysage, que longe la route de Montargis, ressemble à une décoration d'opéra, tant les effets y sont étudiés.' —Balzac, '*Ursula Mirouet*.'

A road of 12 k. leads from Nemours to Chapelle-le-Reine by (7 k.) *Larchant*, with a XIII. c. church, having a very fine tower resting upon the N. porch—an unusual feature. Near this are the curious rocks called *Rocher du Diable* and *Chaudière du Diable*.

[For the road from Nemours to (48 k.) Sens see ch. i.]

97 k *Souppes*. The church is of end of XII. c.

[5 k. S.W. is *Château-Landon*, on the Fusain, the capital of Gâtinais before its union with the crown in 1062. The church of *Notre Dame* has choir and transept of XII. c., nave of XI. c. and XIV. c., tower XIII. c. Of the church of *S. Ugalde*, a romanesque tower and some ruins remain. *S. André* has a ruined tower and walls. The Augustin Abbey of *S. Séverin* has a church of XI. c. and XV. c., and other buildings of XV. c. to XVII. c.: amongst these is a curious well, arranged to serve different storeys. A vast building here, with XIII. c. buttresses, is known as *le Château*. *La Porche* or *La Monnaie* has a picturesque XIII. c. gable, with two windows.]

108 k. *Ferrières* (Hotel: *Railliard*), on the Cléry, celebrated for its Benedictine abbey, of which Alcuin was abbot, where Pépin le Bref was crowned by Pope Étienne II., in 754, and where the brothers Louis III. and Carloman were crowned in 879. Ruined by the English in 1426, and by the Protestants in 1568-69, the abbey retains its gate of XII. c. or XIII. c., the *Chapel of S. Marie de Bethléem* (a very early point of pilgrimage), and the *Church of SS. Pierre et Paul*, dating from XI. c. to XIII. c. The W. façade, of XII. c. with rich ornamentation, was built just before the consecration of the church by Alexander III., in 1163. The arcades and windows of the nave are XI. c., the choir XII. c. The tower, which is joined by one of its angles to the N. transept, is romanesque below, with a XV. c. spire. At the W. door is an elegant bénitier of XIII. c.

118 k. *Montargis*, a great junction station (Hotels: *de la Poste*—good; *de France*), at the meeting of the Loing and the Vernisson. Montargis—Mons-Argisius—was founded by Clovis II., and after 1188 became a royal residence, having been ceded to Philippe-Auguste by the Courtenays, who had possessed it from the X. c. It is the native place of

Mme. Guyon, celebrated by her writings on quietism. The *Château*, inhabited by Charles V., Charles VII., and Charles VIII., was called *le Berceau des Enfants de France*, because, before the building of Fontainebleau, the queens



GATE OF CHÂTEAU MONTARGIS.

came thither to recover from their confinements. In its great hall, which had six chimney-pieces, Charles VIII. caused to be sculptured the history of the dog of Montargis, which is said to have singled out the murderer of his master in the forest of Bondy, indicating also the place where his master was buried. According to the spirit of the

time, Charles V. required the dog to prove his accusation in single combat (on the tilting ground on the island at Paris) with the murderer, who was armed with a club ; and the dog, being victorious, forced his enemy to confess.

The château, already half ruinous, was settled by Philippe d'Orléans, brother of Louis XIV., as a dower house for his second wife, the famous Charlotte Élisabeth, Princess Palatine. In the Revolution, the greater part of the building was destroyed. Nothing remains but the buttressed terrace, a rather picturesque gate of XII. c., and a XV. c. building, with a tourelle, now a private house. The destruction of the great hall is especially to be regretted, as it was a typical monument of the XII. c., with lower hall, a hall on the first floor, and a grand perron, communicating with the lord's dwelling, the donjon, etc.

The large and handsome church has a modern tower in the style of XIII. c. The triple nave is gothic of XII. c., bordered by chapels of XV. c. or XVI. c. ; the transept and choir are XVI. c. The latter was built by Renée de France, Duchess of Ferrara, daughter of Louis XII., to whom Montargis was granted by François I., and it was designed by the famous Ducerceau. The plan is very unusual and effective, the side aisles and ambulatory rising to the height of the central vaulting (from which they are separated by very tall columns, without capitals), but flanked by chapels, which are so arranged as to give a rectangular form to the lower part of the E. end. Gothic within, inclined to renaissance without, this choir, finished 1608, has been recently well restored. There is a magnificent *clef-de-voûte* over the sanctuary.

In the court of the *Musée*, between the town and its



suburb of Chaussée, are some interesting fragments from the château. Two round towers, with loopholes, between this and the town, are the only remains of its XIII. c. and XIV. c. fortifications. In the Benedictine Convent of Montargis, seven of the eight grand-daughters of the famous Colbert took the veil, and there their father was buried.

[2 k. S. of Montargis is the XIII. c. château of *Villemandeur*. In the forest of Montargis, 4 k. N.E. of the station, is *Pancourt*, with the ruins of the *Château de la Salle*, supposed to have been built by S. Louis, and certainly inhabited by him; also a fine menhir.]

[23 k. S.W. of Montargis is *Lorris*, where the kings of France had a residence in XI. c., XII. c., and XIII. c. It has a fine XII. c. church and a renaissance Hôtel de Ville. This was the native place of Guillaume de Lorris, one of the authors of the *Roman de la Rose*.]

Montargis is a chief town of the district called the *Gâtinais*, from its *gâtines*, marshes, now drained and cultivated as cornfields and woods.

[It is 75 k. from Montargis to Orléans, passing—

11 k. S. *Maurice-sur-Fessard*. The church, of xv. c. and xvi. c., is surrounded by walls, which are remains of a château, and it contains an old wooden tabernacle. At *Villemoûtiers* (l. of railway) are remains of a priory.

17 k. *Ladon*. On l. we pass *Ouzouer-sous-Bellegarde*, which has a XII. c. church, with a fine romanesque portal.

25 k. *Bellegarde* (formerly Choisy), which took its present name from Roger de Tennes, Duc de Bellegarde, 1646. The château, which belonged to M. de Montespan, retains its ancient donjon, but was rebuilt in XVII. c. The church, of XII. c., has a beautiful portal.

33 k. *Boiscommun-Nibelle*. 3 k. *Boiscommun* has a church of XII. c., XIV. c., and XVI. c. The pulpit and tabernacle and some painted XVI. c. figures are curious.]

[For the line from Montargis to Sens see ch. i.]

130 k. *Solterres*. The church is XIII. c. L. is *Cortrat*, where the church has a romanesque portal with sculpture representing the Creation.

5 k. E. is *Montcresson*, with a beautiful XII. c. and XIII. c. church.

136 k. *Nogent-sur-Vernisson*.

[A diligence runs to (10 k. E.) *Châtillon-sur-Loing*, made a duchy in 1646 in favour of Gaspard de Coligny, grandson of the famous Admiral. Only an octagonal donjon remains of the old château. On a wall close by is an inscription recording that the murdered Admiral is buried there. A pavilion and terraces remain of the later château of the Montmorency-Luxembourg. Two houses of XVI. c. are especially curious, because one is named *Paradis*, as having been the meeting-place of the Catholic controversialists; the other *Enfer*, as having been the meeting-place of the Protestants. The Church, of XVI. c., has a picture of the Transfiguration by *Claude Vignon* (1624) and of the Madeleine by *C. Vanloo*.

5 k. from Châtillon and  $7\frac{1}{2}$  from Nogent is *Montbouy*, with a XII. c. church. At the hamlet of *Chennevières*, near a Roman camp, are important remains of an *Amphitheatre*, capable of holding from 3,000 to 7,000 spectators, known in the district as *Fosse aux Lions*. At *S. Maurice-sur-Aveyron*, in the same direction, are a fine romanesque church-portal and ruins of a castle; also (2 k. E.) ruins of the *Abbaye de Fontaine-Jean*, of XII. c.]

155 k. *Gien* (Hotel: *de l'Écu*), on the Loire, supposed to occupy the site of the Gaulish town Genabum, removed by the Romans to Aurelianum (Orléans). The flat sandy land falls around Gien, which stands well, crowned by its grey church spire and picturesque château. The latter, which overlooks the town, is supposed to occupy the site of a castle of Charlemagne, and was built by Anne de Beaujeu, to whom Gien was given as a dowry by her father Louis XI. Its courtyard is picturesque. The church of *S. Pierre-du-*

*Château* has nothing ancient but its xv. c. façade and tower, but is very effective from a distance. *S. Louis* is xvii. c. There are some remains of a *Templar's Chapel* of xiii. c. The *Bridge*, of twelve arches, was built by Anne de Beaujeu. Gien is now chiefly famous for its *Manufacture de faïence et de porcelaine artistiques*, and (to commercial travellers) for its *Button Manufactory*.

[7 k. E. of Gien is *Arrabloy*, with a *Castle* built 1285 by Jean d'Arrabloy, the friend of Philippe le Bel. His tomb (1310) is to be seen in the *Cimetière*, and in the church, near the sacristy, is the gravestone of his wife, Jeanne d'Anlezy. Their son, Pierre, was Cardinal and Chancellor of France under Louis X.]

[For the road from Gien to Auxerre see ch. iii.]

165 k. *Briare* (Hotel: *de la Poste*), the Roman *Brivodurum*. The church and ruins of the *Chapelle de Notre-Dame-de-Grâce* are xiii. c. At the spot called *Bonaban*, between the Loire and the canal, the remains of the romanesque chapel of *S. Étienne* are supposed to occupy the site of a Temple of Bacchus. The *Canal de Briare*, which begins here, forms a communication between the Loire and the Seine.

170 k. *Châtillon-sur-Loire*. The town (2 k. from the station) has a ruined donjon. *Le Bailliage* is a xvi. c. building.

177 k. *Bonny*. The church is xii. c. and xvi. c.

[A road of 72 k. leads from Bonny to Joigny by—

12 k. *Lavau*. The church is xvii. c., with a handsome stone pulpit.

20 k. *S. Fargeau*, on the Loing, famous for its *Château*, originally of ix. c., and rebuilt in brick xii. c. Though much altered, it is still very interesting, and was once one of the most important mansions in Central France. A great part of the château has been destroyed by fire. That which remains consists of five masses of main

building with six great towers, enclosing a court, surrounded on all sides by arcaded galleries of xvii. c. and xviii. c. The oval keep is attributed to Jacques Coeur. The fortified gateway opens on the public Place. In the Tour des Archives the procès de Jacques Coeur is preserved.<sup>1</sup> The later buildings are due to Antoine de Chabannes, to Louise d'Orléans, Duchesse de Montpensier, and to Lepelletier de S. Fargeau, member of the Convention, assassinated Jan. 20, 1793, by the Garde du Corps Paris. The château was frequently used as a residence by 'La Grande Mademoiselle.' The Church has a façade and stained-glass of xiii. c., and stallwork of xv. c. The *Tour de l'Horloge* is xv. c., and so is the chapel of the cemetery. The *Mairie*—in an ancient convent—is xvii. c.

32 k. *Mézilles*, has a church of xv. c. and xvi. c., and timber houses of xvi. c.

42 k. *Villiers-S.-Benoît*, has a monastic manor of xvi. c., and church of xv. c. 5 k. is the unfinished renaissance château of *Grandchamp*.

52 k. *S. Aubin-Châteauneuf*. The church (xv. c.) has a double nave and stained-glass of xvi. c. The moated *Château de Fourolles* has a square gate-tower and two tourelles.]

[The road to (64 k.) Auxerre branches off at Mézilles, and passes—

41 k. *Toucy*, which has remains of a xii. château of the bishops of Auxerre, and timber houses of xv. c. and xvi. c.

51 k. *Pourrain*. The church has a portal and tower of xii. c.; choir and chapels xv. c. The *Chapelle de S. Baudel* (xvi. c.) is now a barn.]

183 k. *Neuvy-sur-Loire* (Noviodunum). The church is xiii. c. and xv. c.; the château partly xv. c. At the foot of the hills on l. is *Celle-sur-Loire*, an early royal residence: the church is xii. c. and xvi. c.

191 k. *Myennes*, has a church xii. c. and xvi. c., a château of xvii. c., and ruins of the abbey of *Roches*. The line now skirts the Loire to—

<sup>1</sup> See the account of Bourges.



196 k. *Cosne* (Hotel: *du Grand Cerf*—where Pius VII. stayed), mentioned by Antoninus as Condate, has a suspension bridge over the Loire. The church of *S. Agnan* has nothing ancient but its apse of XII. c. and a richly sculptured W. door. *S. Jacques* is early xv. c. *Notre Dame de Galles* (of XII. c. and xv. c.) is a stable.

On the other side of the railway is the fine gothic (xvi. c.) church of *S. Père*, with remains of a château of the time of Louis XII. At *Villemoisson* (2 k. E.) are remains of a (xii. c. and xvi. c.) *Commanderie de Malte*. 4 k. S. is the *Chapelle S. Brigitte*, joining remains of a XIII. c. fortress.

[A road of 79 k. leads from Cosne to Joigny, passing—

19 k. *S. Amand-en-Puisaye*, with church of XIII. c. and xiv. c., and a handsome château, built 1540 by Antoine de Rochechouart. 6 k. is *S. Vérain*, with a church of XII. c. and XIII. c. The remarkable xiv. c. castle at the extremity of the town (which is itself surrounded by walls) consists of a great circular tower rising in the midst of a court flanked by round towers and separated from the town by two outer courts equally fortified. Close by is *Bitry*, with a renaissance church, and the ruins of *Château de la Maison-Fort*, xiv. c.

34 k. *S. Sauveur-en-Puisaye*, has a church with choir and apse XII. c.; portal xv. c. The xvii. c. château occupies the site of an ancient castle, of which the donjon remains. 9 k. S.W. is *Treigny*, with a very fine (xv. c. and xvi. c.) church, and the still moated (XIII. c.) castle of *Ratilly*, with xvii. c. donjon.]

205 k. *Sancerre* (Hotel: *du Point du Jour*—omnibus, 90 c.). The town, the capital of the ancient Sancerrois, is on a hill 5 k. from the station. The road passes (2 k.) the important abbey-church of *S. Satur*,<sup>1</sup> with a choir, worthy

<sup>1</sup> Visitors may take one omnibus to S. Satur and be picked up by the next from the station to Sancerre.

of a cathedral, the only part finished in 1420, when the monks, to whom it belonged, were completely pillaged by the English. The choir consists of three rectangular bays and a seven-sided apse, the triforium, over the side aisles, being a simple passage without arcades.

Sancerre had its own counts from the end of x. c. From xii. c. it belonged to a branch of the house of Champagne, which came to an end at the close of xiv. c. Louis du Sancerre, the brother of the last count, succeeded Philippe d'Artois as Constable, and was buried at S. Denis in 1402. In 1628 the Seigneury was purchased by the Prince de Condé. The town embraced Calvinism in the middle of xvi. c. and became a great Huguenot centre, which cost it terrible sufferings during a siege and blockade of eight months, in 1573, when the inhabitants were forced to live on rats, moles, and old leather; and a little girl, who had died of hunger, furnished a meal to her parents. The town crowns the top of a high hill covered with vineyards, and has a very wide view over the plain of the Loire. In itself it is a very curious place. The ramparts are turned into promenades. The grim grey houses, which line the very steep streets, are chiefly of xv. c. and xvi. c., showing here and there an arched window or a tourelle. The church (xii. c. restored) has a heavy low xv. c. tower. Nobly placed on the summit of the hill is the huge round xiv. c. *Tour des Fiefs*, rising from a mass of castle ruins in the grounds of a modern château; it is the only remnant of the ancient fortifications, destroyed after the siege.

A little S. of Sancerre is *S. Bouise*, with the fine *Château de la Grange*, built under Louis XIII.

8 k. E. is *S. Laurent*, with a partly ruined but interesting xii. c.

church, and remains of an Augustine abbey of XIII. c., XIV. c., and XV. c.

The railway skirts the Loire, passing l. the château of *Tracy* of XV. c., restored in 1641.

214 k. *Pouilly-sur-Loire*, often devastated by the English and the Protestants, has a church of XIII. c., XVI. c., and XIX. c. The château was rebuilt XVII. c., except the N. façade.

220 k. *Mèves*, has a fine XII. c. barn. 2 k. E. is *Bulcy*, with a church of XII. c. and XIII. c., and château of XIII. c. and XV. c.

227 k. *La Charité* (which may be visited as an excursion from Nevers. Hotels: *du Grand Monarque*—very dirty; *du Dauphin*), a very picturesque and interesting town, which is said to derive its name, Caritas, from that virtue as practised in its monastery, founded in VIII. c. by Basilian monks, destroyed by the Saracens, rebuilt for Benedictines, and given up to the Order of Cluny in 1052, when it became a priory under that great abbey. In 1184, the town, which had arisen under the shadow of the monastery, was surrounded by ramparts, which failed to preserve it from constant sieges and sackings, the worst being that (in 1569) by the Protestants, who exhibited even more than their proverbial barbarity here, by the massacre of the whole of the monks, and 800 innocent members of the Catholic population.

The church of *S. Croix* dates from 1056, but was only finished in 1107, when it was consecrated by Paschal II. It was one of the most magnificent buildings of the roman-  
esque Burgundian style, and was inferior to Cluny alone. Only the choir, transept, the octagonal tower over the cross,

and a W. tower remain of the original church ; the rest was burnt in 1204, and restored by Philippe-Auguste in 1216. The nave is now less than half its original length, but a magnificent gothic W. portal remains in ruins by the side of the great N.W. tower, and the N. wall also exists, its rich arcades showing above the shops which are built into it. The plan of the church is a Latin cross, ending in three apses which encircle the choir, with four other apses on the E. of the transepts. The gothic arches in the choir have a horse-shoe form, which recalls Moorish architecture, and the most splendid capitals. All the ornaments, which are of extreme richness, are romanesque.

Against the end wall of the interior of the S. transept is a portal from the W. façade—very richly sculptured. As at Cluny, the narthex, with its aisles, was a church in itself. There were originally two great W. towers. The S. transept is entered through a fragment of the cloisters. On N. of the church are monastic buildings of xvii. c. and xviii. c., with a fine hall of xiv. c. and an octangular tower with a flamboyant entrance.

The church of *S. Pierre*, in the Grande Rue, converted into dwellings, is xvi. c. Two square towers and a round tower remain of the *Château*. There are considerable remains of the fortifications re-established in 1364, in which the immense number of towers served as lodging and refuge to their defenders ; their importance is shown by Froissart and in the *Life of Du Guesclin*. La Charité has a handsome stone bridge over the Loire.

3 k. S.E. is *Champvoux*, which has a romanesque church, with beautiful xii. c. apse ; and *Chaulgnes*, with church of xii. c. and xvi. c. A little further is *Tronsanges*, with a xii. c. church.



[A road of 87 k. leads from La Charité to Auxerre by—  
8 k. *Narcy*, with a church of XII. c. and ruins of a *Madadverie*  
(leper-hospital). Soon after the road passes the picturesque  
XV. c. feudal manor of *Passy*.



CHURCH OF S. CROIX, LA CHARITÉ.

11 k. *Garchy*. A little r. is the *Château de Vieux Moulin*, inhabited in XVI. c. by Théodore de Bèze, the successor of Calvin, and preacher of the Protestant crusade. The buildings are XIII. c., XIV. c., and XVI. c.

24 k. *Douzy*, at the confluence of the Talvanne and Nohain, a walled town with a castle. The church is partly XII. c. and XIII. c. The ruins of the *Prieuré de Notre-Dame-du-Pré* have a magnifi-

cent romanesque portal, those of the *Prieuré de l'Épau* curious gravestones. 8 k. S.E. is the xvi. c. church of *Cessy-les-Bois*, of beautiful flamboyant gothic. At 10 k., near *S. Colombe*, is the half ruined *Château de Chailloy*, with frescoes in its chapel. Near this S. is the *Chartreuse de Bellary*, founded 1209, with a xiii. c. church. 6 k. W. is *Suilly-la-Tour*, with a renaissance tower and xvi. c. church, and the *Château des Granges*, built under Henri IV., with xvi. c. tapestries.

Passing E. of *Perroy* (church xvi. c.) and the *Château de la Motte-Josserand* (xiv. c. and xvii. c.) the road reaches—

33 k. *Couloutre*, of which the ancient name—*la Rivière*—was borne by a family illustrious in the reigns of Charles V., Charles VI., Charles VII., and Louis XI.

40 k. *Entrains* (Inter amnes), at the source of the Nohain, where many Celtic and Roman remains have been found. The church of *S. Sulpice* is xiii. c. and xv. c. *La Maison de l'Amiral* is a graceful building of xvii. c.

48 k. *Étais*. A little W. is *Sainpuits*, with a good renaissance church and the *Château des Barres*, 1777.

• 56 k. *Druyes-les-Belles-Fontaines*, at the source of the Andrie, overhung by a rock crowned by ruins of a xii. c. castle. It was here that Pierre de Courtenay, in 1216, received the ambassadors who offered him the empire of Constantinople. Near the old castle are remains of an xviii. c. château destroyed in the Revolution. A gate of xiv. c. remains. The church is xii. c. There are several gothic houses of xv. c. 2 k. is the xvi. c. *Château de Boulay*.

65 k. *Courson*. The old château, now *Hôtel de Ville*, was rebuilt xvii. c.; the church is xvi. c. The road leaves to r. *Migé*, with gothic houses and handsome xvi. c. church.

78 k. *Gy-l'Évêque*. The church is xiii. c. and xvi. c.]

[A road of 83 k. leads from La Charité to Château Chinon, passing—

14 k. *Murlin*, with a church of xii. c., and ruined *Château de Montifaut*.

18 k. *Beaumont-la-Ferrière*, with mines. The church is xvi. c., with good iron work of xvii. c.

32 k. *Lurcy-le-Bourg*, on the Nièvre. The church is xii. c., *le Vieux Château* xv. c., *le Château du Marais* xv. c.

59 k. *Châtillon-en-Bazois* (Hotels: *de la Poste*; *de la Nièvre*). The castle which gives the place its name was rebuilt xvii. c. In the church are a tombstone of 1370 and a good picture by *Mignard*. 2½ k. is *Alluy*, where the church (xii. c., xiii. c., and xv. c.) has curious xiii. c. paintings.

64 k. *Tamnay*, with a station on the line from Clamecy to Cercy-la-Tour.]

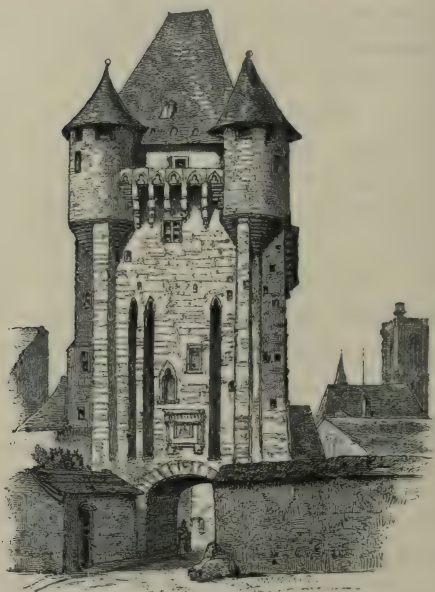
241 k. *Pougues* (Hotels: *Grand*; *du Parc*; *du Prince de Conti*), a popular bathing-place, brought into favour by Catherine de Médicis and afterwards by the Prince de Conti, and very efficacious in stomach ailments. The church dates from xi. c. The neighbouring church of *Garchizy* is xii. c., with a curious portal.

247 k. *Fourchambault*, celebrated for its iron foundries.

254 k. *Nevers* (Hotels: *de France*—very good; *de l'Europe*; *du Commerce*; *de la Paix*). Nothing remains now of the city of *Nevirnum*, or *Noviodunum* (on a Celtic site), except some medals and vases in the town Library, though the Roman town was of such importance in the time of Caesar that he kept his treasure there. From 987 Nevers had its hereditary counts, one of whom, Pierre de Courtenay, surrounded it with fresh walls. In 1565 it became the property of the Gonzagas of Mantua, who sold it (1659) to Cardinal Mazarin, by whom it was bequeathed to his nephew Mancini, whose family held it till the Revolution. The Gonzagas, in the xvi. c., founded here a school of artists in china, whose works are much esteemed by connoisseurs.

Nevers is a pleasant and interesting resting-place; but if it be visited between two trains, the *Rues de Vertpré* and *du Midi* lead r. from the station to the street named from (r.) the *Porte de Croux*. This magnificent gateway was a rebuilding of 1393-96 by Jean des Amoignes, mason. It

is protected by an outer bastion and gate, and by moat and drawbridge, and its effect is as picturesque as any artist could desire. One may ascend direct from the gate to the cathedral, or one may follow the *Rue S. Genest* (containing



PORTE DE CROUX, NEVERS.

a desecrated romanesque church with gothic portal of XII. c.), a continuation of the Rue du Midi, which leads to the *Place Mossé*, where some remains of the abbey church of *S. Sauveur* may be seen, and near which is the bridge (1832) over the Loire, with a curious romanesque



gateway opposite the entrance. Hence the Rue de Loire and Rue de la Cathédrale lead to the centre of the town.

The *Cathedral* had its dedication to SS. Gervasius and Protasius changed to *S. Cyr*, when the relics of that saint were bestowed upon it by Charles le Téméraire. Its aspect shows a series of destructions and restorations, as it was built XIII. c. and XIV. c. upon the site of a church rebuilt in 910, in 1028, and retouched in XII. c. In form it is a long basilica, with an apse at either end.<sup>1</sup> The doorway on the N. of the nave is of 1280. Nearly all the nave and choir are XIII. c., XIV. c., and XV. c., and have good pointed work and effective mouldings. The flamboyant tower is rather heavy, but the ornamentation exquisite. In the interior, little caryatides support the columns, and angels fill the tympanum of the triforium arcades; little statuettes are also attached to the mullions of the upper windows. The apse is romanesque, and, with the two romanesque arches, enclosed in a gothic arch on either side, and the crypt beneath it, is a relic of the cathedral built by Bishop Atton after the destruction of the church of 910. That the nave and choir have not the same inclination is said, as in many gothic churches, to have been intended to recall the bent head of our Saviour on the cross.

‘On y reconnaît tous les feuillages de nos bois et de nos champs,—la feuille de chêne, de peuplier, de roseau, de chardon frisé, etc.; la perfection de l’imitation, et la finesse de travail, sont réellement admirables. Les archivoltes des portes attestent également la patience et l’adresse des ciseleurs du XV<sup>e</sup> siècle.’—*Prosper Mérimée*.

<sup>1</sup> This is the only French cathedral, except Besançon, having a double apse.

In the chapels are altar-pieces of xv. c. and xvi. c., and on the wall of the clôture are two paintings of xv. c. The wooden bishop's throne is xv. c. A clock of the same period, in the S. aisle of the choir, with two figures in armour which strike the hour, is very curious.

On N. of the *Place Ducale* (now called *Place de la République*) is the *Palais de Justice*, formerly the Ducal Palace, of early renaissance. It was built in 1475 by Jean de Clamecy, Comte de Nevers, on the site of a xii. c. castle, and was finished in xvi. c. by the dukes of Nevers, of the families of Clèves and Gonzaga. The central tower contains the grand staircase, of which the windows are decorated with reliefs relating to the history of the house of Clèves; at the angles are round towers, with tourelles for staircases. On the second floor is a Musée.

‘La façade est du plus bel effet, vue de l’extrémité de la grande place qu’elle domine. Trois tourelles à pans, engagées sur cette façade et servant de cages d’escalier, prouvent la répugnance qu’on a eue pendant longtemps à percer les planchers et les voûtes pour établir les escaliers de communication. À voir les fenêtres de ces tourelles disposées en spirale, comme les marches des escaliers, on dirait de loin un large ruban brodé à jour.’—*Prosper Mérimée*.

From the *Place Ducale* we may notice the *Rue Adam Billault*, where the house of that poet is marked by an inscription, and, by the *Rue de l’Oratoire*, which contains some curious gothic fragments, we may reach the *Rue du Commerce*, which contains a fine *Belfry* of the end of xv. c. From the *Place Guy-Coquille* (r.) the *Rue S. Étienne* leads to the curious church of *S. Étienne*, which belonged to a Cluniac priory. A pillar has an inscription saying that the church was founded by the Abbot Columbanus, c. 600, but it really

was founded in 1063, by Guillaume, Bishop of Nevers (who was buried here 1100), and was consecrated by S. Yves in 1097.

'It is a large cross church, with aisles, long transepts, apsidal choir, having an aisle and branching chapels, and eastern apses to the transepts. The W. front has nearly a square elevation, comprehending the aisles, and rising somewhat higher than the roof of the nave; in fact, it is a sort of western tower of very oblong plan. The W. door is round-headed, of three orders, with the torus; all the orders are shafted, the outer one having a very large shaft or column. In the upper part of the front is a triplet of round-headed windows, each under a trefoil arch supported on massive shafts. In the outer line of the voussoirs is a semi-circle, the inner one forming the trefoil head. The nave has round pier arches, a triforium of a plain round arch in each bay, including two smaller ones, now walled up, and a clerestory of one round-headed window. The roof is cylindrical, and between the bays has an arch of one square order, resting on a tall shaft or column with a square abacus. The pier arch is of two square orders, the inner one resting on a shaft or column engaged in the side of the square pier, as is the vaulting shaft in its front. Over the main crossing is an octagonal cupola on romanesque squinches, not pierced for light. This is covered by a low octagon on a square base, very similar to those in Lombardy.'  
—*J. L. Petit.*

The Rue d'Ardilliers, which continues the Rue du Commerce, ends in an arch opposite the Hôtel de France, whence the walk we have described may be taken in reversed order.

5 k. S. of Nevers is *Marzy*, with a romanesque church, surmounted by a tower of XII. c.

[For the line to Auxerre by Clamecy see ch. iii.; for the line to Chagny see ch. i.]

The main line passes (r.) near the *Château du Marais*, xv. c. and xvi. c., before reaching—

264 k. *Saincaize* ; the *Château de Méauce* is XIII. c. and XVI. c., and the *Château de Sallé* is XVI. c.

[A line branches off W. from Saincaize to (49 k.) Bourges, by—

11 k. *Le Guerche sur l'Aubois*. 6 k. is the church of *Germigny l'Exempt*, with a splendid XII. c. portal.

43 k. *Savigny-en-Septaine*, with a XV. c. *Maison de Justice*.]

The railway passes l. the *Château d'Aprémont*, of XIV. c. and XVIII. c., before reaching—

274 k. *Mars*, with a church (of XI. c. and XII. c.) which belonged to a Cluniac priory.

5 k. E. is *S. Parize-le-Châtel*, where a curious crypt of the XI. c. remains from a priory founded by S. Parize in VI. c. In the restoration of the church, Merovingian sarcophagi have been found. Near this are the châteaux *de Villars*, XIV. c. ; *de Langes*, XIV. c. ; and *de Tâches*, XVI. c.

281 k. *S. Pierre-le-Moûtier* (Hotel : *du Dauphin*), a town named from a Benedictine monastery, taken from the English by Jeanne Darc in 1429. The church of *S. Pierre*, which belonged to a Cluniac priory, is XII. c. and XIII. c., altered in XV. c. and XVI. c. The W. portal is XIII. c. In the interior are curious capitals, tombstones of XV. c. and XVI. c., and two bells of XV. c. Close to the church (r.) is a XV. c. house. At the N. end of the town is the XV. c. crypt, called *Cave du Sabbat*, about which there are many traditions.

[A road of 38 k. leads from S. Pierre to Decize (see ch. i.), by (10 k.) *Azy-le-Vif*, with a XII. c. church containing a curious XVI. c. altar piece, and (17 k.) *Neuville-lès-Decize*, where the church of XII. c. contains a statue of S. Genest of the same date.]



313 k. *Moulins* (Hotels: *de Paris; de France; du Dauphin*), founded on the Allier in the x. c., acquired importance (from 1368) as the residence of the Ducs of Bourbonnais. After the treason of the Constable de Bourbon under François I., Moulins was confiscated to the crown. There is not much to see at Moulins itself, but it is worth while to stop there, in order to visit Souvigny.

From the station, the Cours de Bérulle, d'Aquin, and Doujat lead to the Place de Paris. In the Rue de Paris (r.) is the *Lycée*, occupying an ancient convent of the Visitation, in which S. Jeanne Françoise de Chantal died on her way from Paris to Annecy, Dec. 13, 1641. The xvii. c. chapel contains the tomb of Henri de Montmorency, beheaded at Toulouse for treason against Louis XIII., Oct. 30, 1632, erected by his widow, who was a Princesse des Ursins, from designs by François Auguier, carried out by Regnaudin and Thibaut Poissant.

'La reine (Marie Thérèse) arriva de bonne heure à Moulins. Elle alla voir Mme. de Montmorenci, qui est présentement religieuse aux filles de S. Marie à Moulins. Le château de Moulins avoit été le lieu de son exil et de sa prison. Après la mort de son mari, dont rien ne peut la consoler, dès qu'elle fut libre, elle se retira aux Filles de S. Marie, où elle demandoit à Dieu la grâce de pardonner au cardinal de Richelieu qu'elle croyait cause de la mort de son mari. Elle dit qu'elle a été longtemps sans pouvoir l'obtenir. Elle fit bâtir le couvent où elle est, et un superbe tombeau à M. de Montmorenci, qui est devant la grille; ainsi elle peut le regarder sans cesse.

'J'allai la voir après le dîner. Elle me parla beaucoup de feu M. de Montmorenci avec une tendresse qui n'est pas convenable, et me dit que jamais passion n'avoit été égale à celle qu'elle ressentoit pour lui, et que même elle en avoit du scrupule. C'est une femme de beaucoup d'esprit, et qui paroît

avoir été fort agréable, quoiqu'elle n'ait jamais été belle, à ce que la reine me dit. Pendant la vie de son mari, elle avoit pour lui le même amour qui lui reste; et une marque bien extraordinaire qu'elle en donnoit, c'est qu'elle aimoit toutes les personnes dont elle savoit qu'il étoit amoureux; il a été un des hommes les plus galants de son temps. Elle prenoit soin de lui faire faire des habits beaux et magnifiques, sans qu'il le sût, pour aller au bal, afin qu'il fût mieux paré que les autres lorsqu'il y alloit. Quand venoit l'heure qu'il devoit en revenir, elle alloit à la fenêtre qui donnoit sur la rue, afin de le voir plutôt. Pendant que l'on fut à Moulins, l'on parla beaucoup d'elle.—  
'*Mémoires de Mlle. de Montpensier.*'

The heart of the Princesse des Ursins, as well as that of Mme. de Chantal, is preserved in a silver vase.

It is in this convent that the Duchesse de Longueville (Anne Geneviève de Bourbon Condé), the licentious heroine of the Fronde, reports herself as having received (in 1653) the sudden conversion which influenced the remaining thirty-four years of her life, and caused her to become the protectress of Port-Royal.

'Un jour, au milieu d'une lecture de piété, il se tira comme un rideau de devant les yeux de mon esprit; tous les charmes de la vérité, rassemblés sous un seul objet, se présentèrent devant moi; la foi, qui avait demeuré comme morte et ensevelie sous mes passions, se renouvela; je me trouvai comme une personne qui, après un long sommeil, où elle a songé qu'elle étoit grande, heureuse, honorée et estimée de tout le monde, se réveille tout d'un coup et se trouve chargée de chaînes, percée de plaies, abattue de langueur, et renfermée dans une prison obscure.'

From the l. of the Place de Paris the Rue du Cherche-Midi leads to the *Cathedral of Notre Dame*. Only the choir, with its aisles, is finished, of the collegiate church

begun by Agnes de Bourgogne in 1463; but a nave and W. towers, with slender spires, have been effectively added under Viollet le Duc. The apse is square below, and surrounded by low chapels. In the *Chapelle S. Louis* (r.) is a tombstone of 1557, with a sculpture of a corpse eaten by worms. The stair turret near the sacristy is worth notice. The magnificent choir windows are xv. c. and xvi. c. Many historic portraits of the family of Bourbon are introduced.

Very little remains of the ancient *Château of the Duc de Bourbon*, except a tower of xiv. c., called *la Mal-Coiffée*, and a renaissance pavilion. The Rue Notre Dame leads to the *Place de l'Horloge*, containing the Hôtel de Ville and the square *Tour de l'Horloge* of xv. c.

2 k. E. of Moulins is the romanesque church of *Yzeure*, altered in xiv. c. and xv. c. At the end of its N. aisle is a great chapel, founded, 1389, by Jean Saulnier, Chamberlain of Charles V.

[A railway from Moulins to (81 k.) Montluçon (ch. iv.), passes—

14 k. *Souigny*, the original cradle of the house of Bourbon, where a castle of defence was built and a Cluniac priory founded in 916 by Adhemar, Sire de Bourbon, head of the family which afterwards became so prosperous. S. Maïeul and S. Odillon, famous abbots of Cluny, came to superintend this house, and are buried here. The magnificent conventual church of *S. Pierre* (87 mèt. long, 28 wide, and 17 high) was built 1088—1114, and restored 1433—1445. The façade has two towers. The nave has double side-aisles, lined by arcades, between which the arches rest alternately on a cylindrical column and a rectangular pilaster. The vaulting is all xv. c. The choir originally had four semi-circular chapels and a square chapel at the end. The *Chapelle Vieille* and *Chapelle Neuve* were added, the first (on r.) in 1376, to contain the tomb of

Louis de Bourbon, and his wife, Anne d'Auvergne; the second (on l.) in 1440, to contain the tomb of Charles I., and his wife Agnes, daughter of Jean sans Peur. These tombs were terribly mutilated at the Revolution. The chapels also contain the remains of Pierre III., of Anne de France, daughter of Louis XI., of Suzanne de Bourbon, and of the Princess Louise-Marie, daughter of Louis XIV. and Mme. de Montespan.

'Le 15 juillet, 1830, Madame la Duchesse d'Angoulême passant en Bourbonnais et visitant l'abbaye de Souvigny, sépulture des ducs de Bourbon, se fit ouvrir leurs caveaux, et voulut les voir dans leurs cercueils. Tout était poussière, ossements dispersés. Un de ces morts avait mieux résisté, il gardait ses cheveux, de longs cheveux châains; c'était Anne de Beaujeu.'—*Michelet, 'Hist. de France.'*

In the r. transept is a curious stone armoire of xv. c., exquisitely sculptured, with wooden shutters, formerly painted. This is valuable as an example of a piece of church furniture once common in France, but almost everywhere destroyed. In the N. aisle are remains of a richly sculptured xii. c. tomb. The buildings of the Priory are of the time of Louis XIV. The romanesque parish church to the N. is now a granary. Several houses have xiv. c. and xv. c. details. At 5 k. N.W. are remains of the subservient Priory of *Autry-Issards*, with an interesting xii. c. church.

[Diligences run from Souvigny to Bourbon-l'Archambault, passing—

7 k. *S. Menoux* (Menulphus). The fine Benedictine abbey church is of considerable architectural importance. It has a narthex of xi. c., and nave xv. c., both of three aisles, a transept of xii. c. and xiii. c., and a choir with five radiating chapels, the central square, as at Souvigny. At the cross is a noble, richly decorated square tower, of which the foundation storey forms a lantern in the interior of the church. Behind the altar is the stone coffin of S. Menoux (xi. c.), once enclosed in a tomb, of which the fragments remain in the porch.

'The apse of the chevet is surmounted by a series of pilasters of rude classical design, which give it a peculiar local character.



Internally too, the chevet is remarkably elegant, though less Burgundian in style. It shows to what an extent the stiling of round arches could be used to overcome the difficulty of combining arches of different spans, but all requiring to be carried to the same height.'—*Fergusson*.

[2½ k. N. is *Agouges*, where the curious romanesque church has a single nave, transepts ending in apses, and a central apse. The simple vaultings of the nave and transepts recall the domical churches of Anjou. On the W. door is curious iron-work, and in the sacristy xv. c. frescoes. On the neighbouring Place is an ancient font.]

15 k. '*Bourbon-l'Archambault* (Hotels: *Montespan; de France; de l'Écu; du Parc*), a bathing-place, whose waters (*Aquae Borvonis*), efficacious for paralysis, rheumatism, etc., were known to the Romans. They were much brought into notice by Mme. de Montespan, in the time of Louis XIV. Mme. de Sévigné describes her journeys hither (1676):—

'Elle est dans un carrosse à six chevaux; elle a un carrosse derrière, attelé de même, avec six femmes; elle a deux fourgons, six mulets et dix ou douze hommes à cheval, sans ses officiers; son train est de quarante-cinq personnes. Elle trouve sa chambre et son lit tout prêts; elle se couche en arrivant, et mange très bien.'—*Madame de Sévigné*, '*Lettre*, 15 mai, 1676.'

And the death of Mme. de Montespan, at Bourbon, in 1707—when she said to the abbot of the Capuchins of Bourbon who was with her: 'Mon père, exhortez-moi en ignorante, le plus simplement que vous pouvez':—

'20 juin, 1678. Madame de Montespan est partie de ce monde avec une contrition fort équivoque, et fort confondue avec la douleur d'une cruelle maladie. Elle a été défigurée avant de mourir. Son desséchement a été jusqu'à outrager la nature par le dérangement de tous les traits de son visage.'

'27 juin. Madame de Montespan en mourant n'avoit aucun trait ni aucun reste qui pût faire souvenir d'elle: c'étoit une tête de mort gâtée par une peau noire et sèche: c'étoit enfin une humiliation si grande pour elle, que si Dieu a voulu qu'elle

en ait fait son profit, il ne lui faut point d'autre pénitence. Elle a eu beaucoup de fermeté. Le Père Bourdaloue dit qu'il y avoit beaucoup de christianisme.'—'*Lettres de Mme. de Sévigné.*'

James II. of England came here for the baths a very short time before his death.

The ruined *Castle* of the Sires de Bourbon, which still belongs to the Duc d'Aumale, has a curtain wall flanked by three magnificent towers of XIII. c. A fourth tower, called *Qui qu'en grogne*, which bears the arms of Pierre II., who added it in xv. c., overlooks the town. 'On la bâtera qui qu'en grogne,' said the duke. The ramparts communicate, by a battlemented bridge, with a fortified mill of XIV. c. The *Church* is XII. c., with additions of XIV. c. The land occupied by the Capuchin convent is now a promenade much frequented by the real invalids who seek health here, for there are no gay crowds of bathers at Bourbon, as at Vichy.

22 k. *Noyant*. The church has an octagonal xv. c. tower with a stone spire. Near it is a xv. c. château. 4 k. N.E. is the romanesque church of *Meillers*.

30 k. *Tronget*. The church is romanesque of XIII. c. At 2 k. S.W. is *Montet*, with a romanesque church, to which machicolations have been added in xv. c.

43 k. *Chavenon*. L. are the fine ruins of the *Château de Murat*, XIII. c. and XIV. c., and a romanesque church containing a curious enamelled reliquary. 2 k. S.W. is the romanesque church of *Chappes*.

58 k. *Doyet-la-Presle* (a branch line to [6 k.] *Bézenet*, rich in coal). Opposite the station is a feudal pavilion of xv. c.

68 k. *Commentry*, important for coal mines.

81 k. *Monthuçon*. See ch. iv.]

Continuing the main line, we pass—

333 k. *La Ferté-Hauterive*. L., on a hill, is the *Château d'Hauterive*, and further S. *S. Gérard-de-Vaux*, of which the seignury belonged successively to Jacques Coeur, to a brother of Agnes Sorel, and to the family of La Guiche. Parts of the château (xvi. c. and xvii. c.) still remain.

342 k. *Varennnes-sur-Allier.*

2 k. N.E. is the *Château de Gayette*, an hospital since 1694.  
10 k. W. is *S. Pourcain*, on the Sioule, where S. Porcien founded an abbey in vi. c. Its church is partly romanesque, partly gothic. There are four arcades of a xv. c. cloister.

348 k. *Créchy*. L. of the line is the ruined castle of *Billy*, XIII. c.

355 k. *S. Germain-des-Fosses*: the line to Clermont branches off W. See ch. iv.

[The line to Montbrison and S. Étienne by Vichy and Thiers passes—

365 k. (from Paris) *Vichy*. (Hotels: *du Parc*; *des Ambassadeurs*; *de la Paix*; *des Princes*; *de Cherbourg*; *des Thermes*, Rue du Parc;—*des Bains*; *Guillermen*; *de l'Amirauté*; *Vélay*; *Mombrun*; *Grand*, Rue Cunin-Gridaine;—*Britannique*, |Rue Lucas;—*de Richelieu*, Boulevard Victoria;—*de Madrid*; *de Ballore*, Rue de Ballore;—*Molière*, Rue du Casino;—*de Boulogne*; *d'Italie*; *de la Loire*, Rue de Nismes;—*du Louvre*; *S. Louis*, Rue de Rome;—*de Brest*; *de la Suisse*; *de la Côte d'Or*, Rue de Paris. *Carriages*: the course, 1 fr. 25 c. and 2 frs.; the hour, 2 frs. 25 c. and 3 frs.)

The *Aquae Calidae* of Vichy were known under the Romans, and have constantly increased in popularity. The town, prettily situated on the Allier, is visited by 2,500 invalids annually, but has no attraction but health to offer. The house may be visited whence Mme. de Sévigné wrote—

'1 juin, 1676. Je vais être seule, et j'en suis fort aise; pourvu qu'on ne m'ôte pas le pays charmant, la rivière d'Allier, mille petits bois, des ruisseaux, des prairies, des moutons, des chèvres, des paysannes qui dansent la bourrée dans les champs, je consens de dire adieu à tout le reste. Le pays seul me guériroit.

'4 juin, 1676. J'ai enfin achevé aujourd'hui ma douche et ma suerie, je crois qu'en huit jours il est sorti de mon pauvre corps plus de vingt pintes d'eau. Je suis persuadée que rien ne pouvoit me faire plus de bien; et je me crois à couvert

des rhumatismes pour le reste de ma vie. La douche et la sueur sont assurément des états pénibles ; mais il y a une certaine demi-heure où l'on se trouve à sec et fraîchement, et où l'on boit de l'eau de poulet fraîche ; je ne mets point ce tems au rang des plaisirs innocents ; c'est un endroit délicieux.

'8 juin. Tout mon déplaisir, c'est que vous ne voyiez point danser les bourrées de ce pays ; c'est la plus surprenante chose du monde ; des paysans, des paysannes, une oreille aussi juste que vous, une légèreté, une disposition ; enfin, j'en suis folle. Je donne tous les soirs un violon avec un tambour de basque, à très-petits frais ; et dans ces prés et ces jolis bocages, c'est une joie que de voir danser les restes des bergers et des bergères de Lignon.'

Short walks may be taken to (3 k.) *Cusset*, which has several xv. c. houses, and (4½ k.) *La Montagne-Verte*. Drives to (17 k.) *Le Gour Saillant* and the restored *Château de Bourbon-Busset* (partly xiii. c. and xiv. c.), and to (5 k.) *Hauterive*. A longer excursion may be taken to (26 k.) *Ferrières*, and the fine ruined xv. c. castle of *Montgilbert*, upon one of the spurs of Forez.

381 k. *Ris-Châteldon*. The church is xi. c. and xii. c. 4 k. is the old town of *Châteldon*, formerly walled, with a château founded by Louis le Gros, and mineral springs.

402 k. *Pont-de-Dore*, whence a line is continued to (429 k.) *Olliergues*, once a fortified, now a manufacturing town, with a ruined castle and early gothic church ; and (453 k.) *Ambert* (Hotel: *de la Tête d'Or*), a very ancient town, the capital of the Livradois. The granite (xv. c.) church of *S. Jean*, finished 1518, is partly flamboyant and partly renaissance, remarkable for the beauty of its vaulting, and for the peculiar arrangement of its pillars, which diminish in size from the W. end to the choir, giving a great appearance of length to the building. Facing the S. entrance is a Graeco-Roman portal, a remnant of the ancient church of the Penitents. An excursion may be made (N.) on horseback, to the curious rock known as *Pierre-sur-Haute*, said to have served for sacrifice, at one of the highest points of the chain of Forez.

406 k. *Thiers* (Hotels: *de l'Univers*—excellent ; *de Paris*), an exceedingly picturesque manufacturing town, on precipitous



rocks above the Durolle, celebrated for its paper mills and steel works. The knives of Thiers are famous. Everywhere there are steep descents, one house seeming to begin just above the roof of another, but the streets are of great length.

Near the centre of the town is the church of *S. Genest*,



RUE DE BOURG, THIERS.

rebuilt in XI. c. and again in XII. c., and much altered since. In the N. porch is an arcaded tomb of XIII. c. The interior is very remarkable and striking, the tall pillars and narrow romanesque arches of the nave leading up to the four wide romanesque arches which support the low central cupola. The vaulting of the nave is gothic.

The steep Rue du Bourg, with its most picturesque houses, leads (turning l.) to *S. Jean*, a xv. c. church, perched on the edge of a cliff, with a crowded cemetery, filling a cleft below with its throng of tombs. Hence, by a very steep path and wooden bridges amongst the paper mills and cascades in the gorge of the Durolle, we may reach the church of *Moûtier*, named from a Benedictine monastery. The church is chiefly xi. c., with a later tower, but the r. wall at the end of the choir dates from vii. c. or viii. c. In the nave are splendid capitals. The fortified gate of the monastery remains. The neighbourhood of Thiers is picturesque; there is a fine view from the *Puy de Montconçel*.

[For the line from Thiers to Clermont Ferrand see ch. iv.]

419 k. *Chabreloche*. 17 k. hence, on the Roanne road, is *S. Romain-d'Urfé*, 6 k. N.E. of which, by cross-roads, are the interesting ruins of the *Château d'Urfé*, built in the xiii. c., on the top of a hill, by Wulphe le Vaillant. Till the beginning of the xv. c., the château was the seat of the famous family to which it gave a name. In 1418, Jean d'Urfé and his whole family, except his eldest son Pierre, who was at Paris with the king, were murdered by the servants of the castle: the murderers were taken and condemned to be broken on the wheel. Honoré d'Urfé, author of the romance of *Astrée*, has placed many of its scenes in the neighbourhood of the castle. In 1724, the seigneurie of Urfé passed to Louis-Christophe de la Rochefoucauld, who took its name. There is a splendid view from the castle, whose ruined towers are known as *les Cornes d'Urfé*.

428 k. *Noirétable*. The gothic church is preceded by a curious rude porch. 1½ hours' drive to the S.W. is the *Hermitage of Pérotine* (Pierre-aux-Chèvres), whither a Chevalier de Forez retired in penance in xvi. c. The bishops of Clermont afterwards built there a gothic church, of which the choir and portal remain. There is a fine view from the *Montagne de l'Ermitage*.

By the picturesque gorge of the Auzon, and a country abounding in mineral springs, the line reaches—

450 k. *Sail-sous-Couzan*. The *Château de Couzan*, on a lofty precipitous promontory, belonged, from XI. c. to XV. c., to the family of Damas, afterwards to those of Lévis and Luzy de Péliissac. Its outer walls and towers are perfectly preserved, and it has a romanesque chapel. The well is XVI. c. An excursion may be made to the wild district known as *La Suisse Forezienne*, and the *Château de Chalmazel* (XIII. c. and XVI. c.), now an hospital, which is most curious and picturesque.

454 k. *Boën*, very picturesquely situated. The railway leaves the *Mont d'Ozore* to the l.

[A road leads E. from Boën to (50 k.) Tarare (see later) by—

2½ k. *La Bouteresse*, with Roman ruins. Near this, at the hamlet of *Bonlieu*, was a great Benedictine abbey. Its church contained the monuments of the house of Urfé.

The ruins of the castle of Urfé are seen to the l. of the road, and to the r. is the *Château de Bâtie* (see later).]

466 k. *Champdieu*, so called from a Benedictine convent, of which the abbot's house and the church of XI. c. remain.

471 k. *Montbrison* (Hotels: *de la Poste; du Commerce*), on the W. of the ancient lake of Forez, and on the side of a volcanic mound. The fine church of *Notre Dame d'Espérance* was built 1223 to 1466. The portal was erected by Charles I., de Bourbon, 1443. The interior has three naves with chapels on r. Only part of the tomb of Guy IV., founder of the church, remains. Opposite this, is the tomb of the lawyer Pierre du Vernet. Behind the choir is the great *Salle de la Diana*, used as a chapter house, which communicated with the church by a cloister, now destroyed. The vaulting of the hall is completely covered with nearly 1500 blazons of the noblesse of Forez, forming a very curious heraldic monument. It is supposed that the *Diana* was built 1300, and that its heraldic decorations are due to Jeanne de Bourbon, Comtesse de Forez, widow of Guy VIII., in the XIV. c.

Montbrison suffered terribly from the brutalities of the Protestants in 1562.

'Des Adretz fit sauter l'un après l'autre, du haut d'une tour, tous les soldats de la garnison. L'un d'eux s'y étant repris à deux fois sans se précipiter: "Tu es bien long à te décider,"

lui cria des Adretz.—“ Monseigneur,” repliqua cet homme, “ je vous le donne en dix.” Il fut le seul qui obtint grâce.’—*Henri Martin*, ‘ *Hist. de France*.’

[A road leads S.W. from Montbrison to (75 k.) La Chaise-Dieu (see ch. iv.) by—

16 k. *S. Jean-Soleymieux*, where the church has a fine gothic portal, and romanesque crypt with a miraculous fountain.

21 k. *Marols*, which had a fortified Benedictine convent. The church, destroyed by the Protestants in xvi. c., has been rebuilt.

30 k. *S. Bonnet-le-Château*, with an ancient granite collegiate church, of 1460, to which a number of chapels have been added at different dates.

44 k. *Usson-en-Forez*, supposed to occupy the site of the Roman station Icidmagus. There are remains of a castle and fortifications. The choir of the church is of 1505.

56 k. *Créponne*. Only one gate remains of the fortifications, which once made this one of the strongest towns in Velay.]

478 k. *S. Romain-le-Puy*. The remains of the priory founded in xi. c., have a gothic church, built upon a romanesque crypt; on the W. wall are curious medallions.

483 k. *Sury-le-Comtal*. The church is of 1317. The renaissance château belonged to the Comtes de Forez.

486 k. *Bonson*. 4 k. by a branch line to (15 k.) Nus is the walled town of *S. Marcellin*, with a church dating from x. c. or xi. c.

504 k. *S. Étienne* (Hotels: *de France*; *du Nord*; *de Paris*), on the site of a town called Forum under the Romans and Furan in the middle-ages. *S. Étienne*, owing to its coal, has become the eighth town in France, having enormously increased in size and importance in the present century, and it is now the Sheffield of France; there is also a manufactory of ribbons, established here from the x. c. An excursion may be made (by the reservoir of the *Gouffre d'Enfer*) to (6 k.) *Rochetaillée*, picturesquely situated, with a ruined castle and xiv. c. church. A longer excursion may be made by carriage to (16 k.) *Bessat*, and thence on foot or horse-back into the wild scenery of the *Mont Pilat*, the highest part of the Cevennes (see later).

[The line of 58 k., through the coal district from *S. Étienne* to



Lyons, passes (at 41 k.) *Grigny*, with a XIV. c. castle, and XVIII. c. château, but the line has no interest. At night it has almost a continuous chain of lamps, so thickly is the district inhabited.]

[A line leads N. from S. Étienne to (144 k.) Le Puy, through a black manufacturing district, then to—

77 k. *Le Pertuiset*, whence the fine scenery of the Loire, as it passes through the *Gorges de S. Victor*, may be visited. The line runs under the hill which bears the great ruined castle of *Cornillon* (XII. c. to XVI. c.) to—

83 k. *Aurec*, which has remains of XIII. c. castle.

94 k. *Bas-Monistrol*. *Bas* (4 k. W. of the station), which has a romanesque church and xv. c. houses, was the capital of Basset. Leaving the village by a little square, containing a xv. c. cross, we may visit the fine ruined *Château-de-Rochebaron*, built under Charles VII., dismantled by Richelieu. 7 k. distant from Bas, and  $3\frac{1}{2}$  E. of the station, is *Monistrol-sur-Loire*, on a peninsula between two torrents which form the Folletier. The XII. c. church has a triple nave, the side aisles being wider than that in the centre. Two of its monolith pillars appear to have belonged to a more ancient building. At the fifth bay is a cupola. The castle, built in the xv. c. by Jean de Bourbon, Bishop of Puy, and altered under the Renaissance, is still inhabited. At 6 k. is the manufacturing village of *Le Séauve*, which owes its origin to a Cistercian abbey of 1228, of which there are small remains. *S. Didier* (9 k.) has remains of mediæval architecture: its château existed in the x. c.

99 k. *Pont de Lignon*, belonging to *Bauzac*, which has two gateways and other remains of fortifications. 3 k. W., on a rock above the Loire, is the ruined priory of *Confolent*, founded 995. On the way to Yssingeaux is the ruined Château de *Maubourg*.

111 k. *Retournac*, has a curious romanesque church. On a hill above the l. bank of the Loire is seen the ruined castle of *Artias*.

115 k. *Chamalières*, at the foot of *Mont Gerbizon*, had a famous priory, dependent on the abbey of S. Chaffre. The fine church has a triple nave of three aisles, ending in a single apside, surrounded by four radiating chapels. The doors have been sculptured. The xi. c. bénitier, adorned with four statues, is curious. Some of the priory buildings are occupied by the Soeurs de S. Joseph.

123 k. *Vorey*. 6 k. N.E. is the loftily situated ruined castle of *Roche en Regnier*, which belonged to the Constable de Bourbon.

132 k. *La Voûte*. After this, the Loire passes through a picturesque gorge.]

Continuing the main line—

The pale mountains of Auvergne are seen on r. before reaching—

372 k. *La Palisse*, overlooked by a feudal château of xv. c. and xvi. c., with a flamboyant chapel. The château belonged to Jacques de Chabannes, who fought with Jeanne Darc, and died of a wound received at the battle of Castillon, 1453. There is a fortified gothic gateway near the château. The scenery has now become less monotonous. The railway passes (r.) *Crozet*, with a castle of xii. c. and timber houses of xvi. c., before reaching—

389 k. *S. Martin-d'Estreaux*. 5 k. N.E. (omnibus) is the watering-place of *Sail-les-Bains*.

398 k. *La Pacaudière*, after which the fine xv. c. church of *Ambierle* is seen on the lower heights of the hills on r. It has good stained-glass and stallwork, and a triptych attributed to Van Eyck. In the xiv. c. sacristy is the tomb of Cardinal de la Grange, minister of Charles V. Close by are ruins of the monastery to which the church was attached.

408 k. *S. Germain-d'Espinasse*.

6 k. S.W. is *S. Haon-le-Châtel*, with ruined walls and gate, xv. c. château, and romanesque church. 6 k. S. of this is *S. André-d'Apéhon*, with a tower of xv. c., where the Maréchal S. André, one of 'the Catholic triumvirate,' 1561, was born; he was killed in the battle of Dreux.  $4\frac{1}{2}$  k. E. from S. Haon is the restored *Château de Boisy*, one of the most formidable of Forez in the

xiv. c. and xv. c. The existing buildings are mostly due to Jacques Coeur, treasurer to Charles VII.

421 k. *Roanne* (Hotels: *du Nord*; *du Commerce*), an ugly, smoky manufacturing town on the Loire, much changed from the time when we read—

‘Roan seem’d to me one of the pleasantest and most agreeable places imaginable for a rettyred person.’—*John Evelyn*, 1644.

13 k. distant are the mineral springs of *S. Alban*.

[A line runs r. to (60 k.) *Paray-le-Monial*, by—

19 k. *Pouilly-sous-Charlieu*, 6 k. from which is the very interesting Cistercian Abbey of *Benedictio Dei, Bénissons-Dieu*. Its church, built 1160, has a triple nave of seven bays. The porch, one bay deep, has been partially ruined by the fall of the great bell, and the choir is in ruins. Near the entrance of the S. aisle is the (xiv. c.) tomb of Humbert d’Aspinelli and his wife. The second bay forms the entrance to a chapel, built 1639 by Cistercian nuns from Mègemont near Issoire, who changed residence at that date with the monks who had lived here before.

35 k. *Marcigny-sur-Loire*, which owes its origin to a Benedictine convent founded by S. Hugues, abbot of Cluny, in xi. c. 4 k. E. is *Sémur-en-Brionnais*, once the capital of Brionnais, with an old castle, and a fine Burgundian xii. c. church.]

[A line runs S. from Roanne to (82 k.) *S. Étienne* by—

41 k. *Feurs* (Hotel: *de la Poste*). Le Forus (not Forum) was a town in Gallo-Roman times. 13 k. W. is the *Château de la Bâtie*, where Honoré d’Urfé wrote his famous romance of *Astrée*. The château is exceedingly curious and well-preserved. Its chapel (1548) is approached by a grotto of shells. At the end of the gardens a convent of Cordeliers was built at the end of the xv. c. by Pierre d’Urfé and his wife, Catherine de Polignac, and there they are buried.

62 k. *S. Galmier*, famous for its mineral waters.]

[A road leads E. to (66 k.) Rive de Gier, by—

11 k. *S. Martin-Lestra*, very picturesquely situated. To the r. of the road is seen the fortified town of *Haute-Rivoire*, with a fortified church.

19 k. *Les Halles*, with the ruins of the *Château de Fenoyl*.

24 k. *S. Foy-l'Argentière*. The *Petit Séminaire d'Argentière*, founded by Cardinal Fesch, occupies the buildings of the ancient priory of *Notre Dame de Coise*, founded 1272.

30 k. *Duerne*, on the top of the chain of Châtelard.

40 k. *S. Symphorien-sur-Coise*, a curious mediaeval town, on the site of a precipitous rock above the Coise, with remains of fortifications. On the summit of the rock is a fortified church of the xv. c. on the site of an earlier building; its crypt contains the tomb of the founder, Cardinal Pierre Girard.]

430 k. *L'Hôpital*.

Diligence to (7 k. S.) *S. Symphorien-en-Lay*, where the gothic nave of the church belonged to a Benedictine priory.

437 k. *Régny*, has a church of XIII. c. and ruins of a Cluniac priory.

443 k. *S. Victor*.

A branch line of 7 k. leads to the picturesque little town of *Thizy*, which has a church of XI. c. and is overlooked by a ruined castle of the Seigneurs de Beaujeu. At *Bourg-de-Thizy* is another XI. c. church, which belonged to a Benedictine abbey.

449 k. *Amplepuis*, after which the line enters a rocky and wooded valley.

463 k. *Tarare* (Mons Taratri), a town which owes considerable prosperity to one Simonnet, who introduced the manufacture of muslins there in 1756. *Tarare* is also a great industrial centre for the manufacture of plush and velvet.

[A diligence to (14 k.) *Le Bois d'Oingt*, which has an old château. *Oingt* is a very ancient fortified village.]



The country becomes very picturesque before reaching—  
479 k. *L'Arbresle* (Arborella), at the confluence of the Turdine and Brevenne, which owes its name to the vast forests which covered the country when it was founded (xi. c.) by the monks of Savigny. The curious old town is grouped around the ruins of the castle, built by the monks, still flanked by five massive quadrangular towers. The church is xiii. c. and xv. c. At *Savigny*, near this, are remains of a famous abbey (see ch. i.).

485 k. *Lozanne*. 4 k. N. is *Châtillon-d'Azergues*, picturesquely situated at the foot of a rock crowned by a ruined castle, of xii. c. and xv. c., with a donjon of xiii. c. The xii. c. chapel has been restored: it consists of two storeys, to the upper of which is attached a chapel of xv. c. containing the grave of Geoffroi de Balzac, 1510. In the old cimetière are the xi. c. *Chapelle de S. Roch* and an ancient gothic cross.

490 k. *Chazay-Mareilly*. 1 k. N.W. is *Chazay-d'Azergues*, preserving part of its ramparts and two ancient gateways. In the château is a beautiful sculptured chimney-piece and graceful stair-turret. The old house of the Seigneurs de Châtillon has a picturesque tourelle.

520 k. Lyon. See ch. i.

### CHAPTER III.

#### EXCURSION BETWEEN THE TWO LINES FROM PARIS TO LYON, CHIEFLY IN YONNE AND NIÈVRE— AUXERRE, CLAMECY, AVALLON (VÉZELAY), SÉMUR (SAULIEU).

A week's tour from England may be well employed on the places described in this chapter.

FROM (155 k.) *La Roche*, on the main line from Paris to Lyon (see ch. i.) a line branches off to S.W. by—  
163 k. *Chemilly*. The church is XII. c. and XVI. c.  
4 k. E. is *Seignelay*, which had an ancient château, restored by Colbert, and destroyed at the Revolution. The church is renaissance. 4 k. is *Appoigny*, which has a church partly XIII. c., with a renaissance belfry and rood-loft.

174 k. *Auxerre* (Hotels: *de la Fontaine*; *de l'Épée*, in the Haute Ville; *du Léopard*, on the quay of the Yonne). This very picturesque and interesting city, the capital of the Département de l'Yonne, occupies the site of the Gaulish Autricum, and was early famous in ecclesiastical history as the residence of the great missionary bishop S. Germain. King Raoul died here, Jan. 15, 936.

From the station, the Faubourg S. Gervais leads to the bridge over the Yonne, whence there is a noble view of the cathedral, and of the grand abbey of S. Germain,

rising beyond the bend of the river. Following the Rue du Pont, the first turn on r. leads to the church of *S. Père* (S. Pierre), itself worthy to be a cathedral. A picturesque renaissance gateway—*La Porte de S. Père*—forms the entrance into the court in front of the church, which has a renaissance façade, but a stately and beautiful gothic tower of 1530. The triple nave and the series of



ABBEY OF S. GERMAIN, AUXERRE.

chapels surrounding the choir have much modern and some ancient stained glass. The Rue Joubert (with many old houses) leads from S. Père to—

The noble *Cathedral of S. Étienne*, founded by S. Amatre at the end of the iv. c., enlarged 610, rebuilt 1030, after a fire, and again rebuilt 1215-34, by Bishop Guillaume de Seignelay and his successor, Henri de Villeneuve. The W. front, which has three great portals surmounted by a gable, and the tower, are perfectly veiled

in rich gothic tracery. The N. portal is equally rich, and the windows above it very pleasing in design.

‘Towards the middle of the thirteenth century the cathedral of Saint Étienne was complete in its main outlines; what remained was the building of the great tower, and all that various labour of final decoration which it would take more than one generation to accomplish. Certain circumstances, however, not wholly explained, led to a somewhat rapid finishing, as it were out of hand, yet with a marvellous fulness at once and grace. Of the result much has perished, or been transferred elsewhere; a portion is still visible in sumptuous relics of stained windows, and, above all, in the reliefs which adorn the W. portals, very delicately carved in a fine, firm stone from Tonnerre, of which time has only browned the surface, and which, for early mastery in art, may be compared to the contemporary work in Italy.’—*Walter Pater*.

The interior is exceedingly imposing in colour and effect; most of the light comes from the tall, graceful clerestory, in which much of the ancient glass remains. The nave and transept only date from xiv. c. and xv. c., and the tower from early xvi. c. The choir, from being rebuilt upon the romanesque crypt, has only a single square apsidal chapel, divided from the ambulatory by tall, slender columns. The crypt itself, with singularly graceful vaulting, restored by Viollet le Duc, has curious frescoes, including Christ and the Evangelists on horseback, in reference to the visions of the Apocalypse. There are other frescoes in the chapels of the nave. The choir is an exceedingly beautiful specimen of early gothic, and, like the transept, it retains its splendid xiii. c. glass, most glorious in colour. At the entrance of the sanctuary are the tombs of Bishop Nicolas Colbert (r.), 1676, and Bishop Jacques Amyot (l.), 1593, tutor to the sons of Henri II.,



translator of Plutarch, and one of the greatest writers of his time.

‘Quelle obligation ne lui a pas notre langue, n’ayant jamais eu personne qui en ait mieux su le génie et le caractère que lui, ni qui ait usé de mots et de phrases si naturellement françaises.’  
—*Vaugelas*.

Exquisitely beautiful is the sculptured foliage on the capitals at the side of the choir by the entrance to the sanctuary. In a chapel N. of the choir is the monument of the Chastellux family, restored since the Revolution.

The *Fête des Fous* was celebrated here till 1407. The canons played at ball (pelota) in the nave of the cathedral till 1538, the last-appointed canon furnishing the ball and giving it to the dean; the game was followed by a dance and banquet.

The *Évêché* has some portions of the XII. c., especially a beautiful romanesque gallery built by S. Hugues de Montaign, thirty-third bishop of Auxerre (1115-36).

From the N. of the cathedral, the Rue Cochon leads to the *Abbaye de S. Germain*, founded by the saint. It was surrounded by walls, of which a tower and a piece of battlemented (XIV. c.) wall remain. The XVIII. c. buildings are occupied by the Hôtel Dieu and public offices. Of the church, built by S. Clotilde to receive the relics of the saint, rebuilt 1270, finished XV. c., the remains are the magnificent romanesque *Tour de S. Jean*, with a stone spire, the transept with a XV. c. rose window, the XIII. c. sanctuary, part of the nave, and the crypt. In the S. gable is a statue of S. Germain, whose story is represented on the N. portal. The treasury had XV. c. tapestries. The crypt, which is in

itself a church, with triple nave, choir, and apsidal chapel, is one of the chief sanctuaries of France, from the number of tombs of the saints which it contains. You look down and see the stone coffins of S. Heribalde, the first abbot; of his brother and successor, S. Abbon; of S. Fraterne, who was killed on the day of his election (1475); of S. Loup, Bishop of Auxerre; of SS. Roman and Theodose; of S. Maxime, one of five sisters who brought back the body of S. Germain from Ravenna; of SS. Alode and Urse; of S. Marian, who died at Cosne in the iv. c. and was brought hither in the ix. c.; of S. Betto; and of S. Geran de Soissons. The chapel is shown where the body of S. Martin of Tours rested in refuge for twenty years, after which it was restored to its native place; in another chapel—des Moines—with beautiful vaulting, the monks held their secret councils. In the centre of all is the great stone coffin of St. Germain.

The Rue du Collège (observe No. 2) and Rue de Paris lead (l.) to (r.) the *Palais de Justice*, built (1509 and 1620) on the site of the château of the Comtes d'Auxerre: it contains the usual *Musée*. Continuing the Rue de Paris, the fourth street on l. leads to the *Tour Gaillarde*, a clock tower of 1483, once one of the city gates, with a round tower attached to it. In the neighbouring square is a *Statue* of Jean Joseph Fourier, 1830. Hence we may reach (close to the Hôtel de la Fontaine) the *Abbey of S. Eusèbe*, founded by S. Pallade in vii. c. Only the church (xii. c. to xvi. c.) remains, with a lofty choir, and a xii. c. tower. In the treasury is preserved the shroud of S. Germain. The l. aisle contains a beautiful wooden lectern, supported by angels.

There is a diligence to (21 k.) *Chablis*, famous for its wine, which possesses two XIII. c. churches and a number of gothic timber houses.

[A road leads W. from Auxerre to (82 k.) Gien, by—

13 k. *Pourrain*. See ch. ii.

23 k. *Toucy*. See ch. ii.

33 k. *Mézilles*. See ch. ii.

42 k. *S. Fargeau*. See ch. ii.

48 k. *Tannerre*. The church is XII. c. and XVI. c., the château XVIII. c.

50 k. *Villeneuve-les-Genêts*. The church is XVI. c. At 3 k. is the feudal mound of an old castle turned into a farm.

62 k. *Bléneau* on the Loing. The XII. c. church has a curious (xv. c.) painting of a knight in armour. Near this Turenne defeated the army of the Prince de Condé, 1652.

74 k. *Ouzouer-sur-Trêze*, with old fortifications and a XII. c. church. Many remains of Roman occupation have been found in the neighbourhood.]

[For the road which leads S.W. to (87 k.) La Charité, see ch. ii.]

A railway leads from Auxerre to Nevers by—

8 k. *Champs-S.-Bris*.  $3\frac{1}{2}$  k. E. is *S. Bris*, where the church has a triple nave of XII. c., and a choir and sanctuary of renaissance. The XIV. c. glass is very rich, and a fresco representing the tree of Jesse, and the (VII. c.) tombs of S. Prix and S. Cot are curious. In the village are several xv. c. houses, and a house of the Templars of XII. c.

12 k. *Vincelles*. The church is xv. c. The château was once inhabited by Mme. de Staël. *Vincellottes* has

a XIII. c. crypt belonging to the abbey of Reigny. 3½ k. W. is *Coulange-la-Vineuse*, with an interesting xv. c. house.

17 k. *Cravant* (the junction station for Avallon), an ancient fortified town. The church has a triple nave of xv. c., and a renaissance choir with eleven radiating chapels. On l. is a square tower of xvi. c. Several timber houses are xvi. c. The railway passes (r.) near *S. Pallaye*, which has a church (xii. c. and xvi. c.) with a crypt containing the tomb of the saint.

26 k. *Mailly-la-Ville*, the fortified manor of *Le Cour de Mailly*, is xvi. c. 3 k. S. is *Mailly-le-Château*, an old fortified town on precipitous rocks above the Yonne. The river is crossed by a xvi. c. bridge, with a little chapel of the same date. The castle, built in xii. c., retains nothing but fortifications of xv. c. The church, of early xiii. c., has a beautiful portal surmounted by an arcade of five columns; the chapel of the Virgin is xiv. c.; that of S. Étienne renaissance. The chapel of the cemetery (partly ruined) is xii. c. The valley of the Yonne becomes very picturesque, and the railway passes near (r.) the ruined *Château de la Tour*, before reaching—

36 k. *Châtel-Censoir*. The church has a crypt and sanctuary, some say of ix. c., some of xi. c.; the nave and tower are xvi. c. On r. of the choir is a chapter-house of xii. c. Near the church is a tower of the ancient castle. In the environs is the menhir called *Pierre-qui-Tourne*. It is 12 k. from Châtel-Censoir to Vézelay (see later) by the nearest way. A route, longer by 7 k., passes the xiii. c. priory-church of *Asnières*.

44 k. *Coulange-sur-Yonne*, has a church and bridge of



xvi. c., and some remains of a xiii. c. castle. The line passes (l.) the xvi. c. church of *Surgy*, with a stone spire.

52 k. *Clamecy* (Hotels : *de la Boule d'Or* ; *de la Poste*). The Faubourg de Bethléem, on r. of the town, contained a hospital, granted by Guillaume IV., Comte de Nevers, who died in Palestine, 1168, to the Bishop of Bethlehem, to replace his bishopric, in case of the Christians being expelled from the Holy Land by the Mahommedans. This prevision was actually fulfilled, and the bishopric of Bethlehem in France, which was without jurisdiction or clergy, was only suppressed in 1789. The *Church*, of xii. c., remains in great part. Its form is a parallelogram, and its choir ends in a straight wall. It now does duty as a Salle-à-manger to the Hôtel de la Boule d'Or.

The great church of *S. Martin* was begun xiii. c. and finished xv. c. Those who can admire flamboyant architecture will be struck with the magnificence of the xvi. c. W. front. Its great square tower, flanked by tourelles, is covered with tracery ; above the vast and rich gothic portal is a rose window, and then a crocketed gable, filled with tracery, and connected by flying buttresses of lace-like sculpture, with two detached pinnacles. The interior has a triple nave, with triforium and clerestory above the side aisles. The gallery of the triforium is continued round the last bay but one to the E., making a kind of division from the sanctuary. The ambulatory is continued round the square apse. There are curious lead bénitiers, and amongst the many beautiful details of this church, the foliage on the brackets is very remarkable for execution.

Under the *Hôtel de Ville* are the cellars of the old palace

of the Ducs de Nevers. On one of the bridges is a bronze bust of Jean Rouvet, 'l'inventeur des flottages.'

A little S. of the town is *Trucy-l'Orgueilleux*, with a church of XIII. c., XVI. c., and XIX. c., and a château of XIV. c., converted into a farmhouse.

It is 23 k. from Clamecy to Vézelay (see later).

[A railway runs S. from Clamecy to Cercy-la-Tour, on the line from Chagny to Nevers, passing—

11 k. *Asnois*. The church is XIII. c.; the château XVI. c. to XVII. c. The railway passes (r.) *Amazy*, with a handsome XVI. c. church.

17 k. *Tannay*, a hill-set city surrounded by walls of xv. c., overlooking the valley of the Yonne. The church of *S. Léger* is XIV. c., XV. c., and XVI. c.; in its baptistery is a curious relief of the hunting of S. Hubert. In the Rue de Bèze is a good xv. c. house.]

[A road leads from Tannay to (70 k.) Decize, by—

7 k. *Asnan*; on the l. is *Moraches* with a good XVI. c. church and ruined castle.

13 k. *Brinon-les-Allemands*. The church is XII. c., XIII. c., and XVI. c.; the château XV. c.

18 k. *Neuilly*. The church is XII. c. and XVI. c. On l. is *Champallement*, where the church is XII. c. and XVI. c.; the château XV. c.

21 k. *S. Révérien*, has a priory (now parish) church chiefly of the XII. c.: in the apse are xv. c. frescoes. At 7 k. is the ruined (XIII. c.) castle of *Montenoison*.

32 k. *S. Saulge*, on a plateau which has remains of an important Roman camp. The XVI. c. church has good stained glass. 3 k. W. is the XII. c. church of *Jailly*.

45 k. *Rouy*, with a romanesque church. The road passes (to l.) *Fresnay-Reugny*, which has a curious XVI. c. château.

53 k. *Anlezy*. The church is XII. c., XIII. c., and XVI. c. The road passes on l. *Thiangés*, with a XII. c. and XVI. c. church containing a fine XVI. c. statue of S. George.]

Leaving Tannay, the railway passes (l.) *Monceaux-le-Comte*, with a church of XII. c., XIV. c., and XVI. c., and a ruined château of the Comtes de Nevers. 2 k. N.E. of this is the *Abbaye de Réconfort*, founded by a Comtesse de Nevers in 1277.

31 k. *Corbigny* (Hotels: *du Lion d'Or*; *du Commerce*), an ancient town on the Anguison. The parish church of *S. Seine* has a marble altar from the ancient abbey. *S. Jean* dates from XII. c. At 2 k. is *Chitry-les-Mines*, with a XVI. c. church, and a château flanked by four towers and containing curious XVI. c. paintings.

[There is a diligence from Corbigny to (16 k.) *Lormes*, by (7 k.) *Cervon*, on a great height, where a convent was founded by *S. Eptade* in VI. c. The ancient collegiate church of XII. c. has a rich portal. In the wood of *Coeuillon* is a curious block of stone, like a sarcophagus, known as *Belle-Pierre*, which is a constant object of pilgrimage with women wishing for either husband or children ! It is always covered with votive offerings.]

43 k. *Épiry*. A great square tower remains of the château which was inhabited by *Vauban*, and where *Comte Roger de Bussy-Rabutin* was born.

49 k. *Aunay*, has a XVII. c. château, and the ruined castle of *Broin*, XV. c.

57 k. *Tamnay-Châtillon*. After this the railway passes r. of the château of *Brinay*, XIII. c. and XVI. c., then *Limanton*, with a XVI. c. château and the *Abbaye de Bellevaux* of XIII. c.

68 k. *Moulins-Engilbert*. Near this are two Roman camps, one of which is occupied by XIII. c. ruins of a castle of the Comtes de Nevers. The priory-church of *Commagny* is XII. c.

74 k. *Vandenesse-S.-Honoré-les-Bains*. At *Vandenesse* is a great XV. c. château, which belonged to the family of *Chabannes-la-Palisse*. 6 k. distant is *S. Honoré-les-Bains* (Hotels: *Grand*; *des Bains*; *des Thermes*), a bathing-place at the foot of the mountains of *Morvan*, which was (as *Arbandata*) known under the Roman dominion, as efficacious for leprosy. *Caesar* built magnificent baths here, but from the fifth to the present century the waters were forgotten. The old town is overlooked by the ruined *Château de la Montagne*.

The railway passes the priory of *Mazille* (xv. c.) just before reaching—

83 k. *Cercy-la-Tour*. See ch. ii.]

93 k. *Varzy*, a pretty old town, surrounded by boulevards. The church of *S. Pierre*, of xiv. c., has a triple nave, with triforium and a large sanctuary. There are two square towers at the cross. In the interior are thirteen reliquaries, some of the xii. c. and xiii. c. : there is some good stained glass.

100 k. *Corvol-d'Embernard*. 3½ k. W. is *Champlemy*, with a gothic church of 1590 ; a château with tourelles, xiv. c., xv. c., and xvi. c., and in the park the source of the Nièvre.

106 k. *Arzembouy*, with a ruined church. At *Giry* are a church of xii. c. and a château of xvi. c.

117 k. *Prémery* (Hotel : *de France*). The castle is xiv. c. and xvi. c. The church, of xiii. c., has a triple nave, and contains an inscription in honour of S. Nicolas Appleine, 1466. Near the village of *Sichamps* is *La Grotte des Fées*, where a clear spring has its rise, disappears again, and reappears in the meadows at some distance off.

132 k. *Guérigny*, famous for its forges.

137 k. *Urzy*, has a church xii. c. and xv. c., and château of xvii. c., and is overlooked by the *Château des Bordes*, 1480.

147 k. *Nevers*. See ch. ii.

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A railway runs from Auxerre to Les Laumes, on the main line from Paris to Lyon, by—



18 k. *Cravant*. See p. 170.

24 k. *Vermenton*, on the Cure. The church has a rich romanesque portal: the nave and the elegant tower are of XIII. c. One tower of XIV. c. remains from the ancient walls. After leaving the station, the abbey of *Reigny*, founded 1130, is seen on the r.

32 k. *Arcy-sur-Cure*. The château of 1767 possesses the ancient outer walls of an older building. The *Château de Digogne* (XII. c.) is in ruins. 2 k. are the curious caverns called *Grottes d'Arcy*, rich in stalactites, etc. (entrance, 5 fr.). The keys are kept at the fortified manor of *Châtenay*, 1549. The railway continues by the picturesque valley of the Cure and the ruined castle of *Voutenay*, to—

41 k. *Sermizelles*. The XII. c. church has a XVI. c. tower. (There is an omnibus from here to [19 k.] Vézelay. See later.) On the *Montagne de Montmarte* (r.) some remains of a temple of Mars have been discovered.

56 k. *Avallon* (Hotels: *de la Poste*—good; *du Chapeau Rouge*), most picturesquely situated above deep gorges, which must be explored to obtain an idea of the singular position of the place. In one, the sides of the cliff are cut away into terraced gardens; but in the other, masses of dark grey rocks rise almost to the buildings of the city. In the modern town is a pretty promenade of clipped limes, with a statue of Vauban by Bartholdi. Hence, a winding street leads to the *Tour de l'Horloge*, a lofty grey tower with a single tourelle, built 1455, above an older gateway, and containing a small *Musée*.

Just beyond the gate (on l.) is the Collegiate Church of *S. Lazare*, or *S. Ladre*, built on the site of an earlier church dedicated to Notre Dame in the first years of XII. c. Of

this date are the two great portals of the façade, which are exceedingly rich and splendid. That on l. is divided by a pillar to which a statue of S. Ladre was originally attached. That on r. is adorned with garlands of fruit and flowers.

'Le portail de l'église S. Lazare, qui est un des exemples les plus remarquables de l'architecture fleurie du XII<sup>e</sup> siècle, possède des colonnettes à pans, torses, taillées avec une rare perfection dans un seul morceau de pierre. Sur les ébrasements de cette même porte, nous voyons un fût de colonnette torse qui présente un réseau de cordelettes.'—*Viollet le Duc*.

A flight of steps is descended to the interior of the church, which has several twisted columns. By the side of S. Lazare rises the *Chapelle S. Pierre*, a single gothic nave of XIII. c.

From the *Petit Cours* is a delightful view over the valley of the Cousin. The ancient church of *S. Martin*, at the end of the faubourg of that name, is transition romanesque. In the choir are two ancient cipollino columns. The modern church of S. Martin is XVIII. c. There are many timber houses in Avallon of xv. c. and xvi. c.

Several delightful excursions may be made from Avallon, which is a capital centre. A favourite expedition is that (10 fr.) to the Convent of la Pierre-qui-Vire. The road passes near *S. Léger-Vauban*, with a church of xv. c. and a village where Vauban was born in 1633, and where, till his seventeenth year, he served as a shepherd. Near the hamlet of Trinquelin is the great convent of *S. Marie de la Pierre-qui-Vire*, which takes its name from an isolated dolmen surmounted by a statue of the Virgin, and which local tradition declares to have formerly turned upon its own base of its own accord at midday. The convent, which was only founded in the desolate Morvan in 1849, formerly contained one hundred monks, but has now only six.

The church, in the romanesque style, is from designs of Frère François.

A more interesting excursion is that to (12 k.) *Chastellux*. The road descends into the picturesque gorges below the town, and then crosses a heathy country recalling Scotland, till it enters a glen with an old bridge, clear river, and beautiful woods. It is pleasantest to leave the carriage here, and walk up past the ancient cottages to the *Church*, which contains the tomb of Louis de Chastellux, 1580, and a bust of Comte César-Pierre,



CHATEAU DE CHASTELLUX.

killed at Nördlingen, in 1646. A cippus commemorates Olivier de Chastellux, and his wife Marguerite d'Amboise, 1617, 1625. Close by, above beautiful lawns and gardens, avenues of pink chestnuts, and terraces with brilliant flowers and clipped orange trees, rise the old towers of the *Château*, which is perfectly preserved and nobly kept up, though it dates from the middle of XIII. c., and its donjon tower—La Tour de S. Jean—from XI. c. Its ramparts have been constantly adorned, never destroyed. Visitors are admitted at the old portal by the sundial, but the interior is nothing more than that of a thoroughly comfortable

country-house. The pictures are only a good succession of family portraits, except a fine portrait of Mme. Victoire, 'Tante du Roi,' in a grey dress, given to her god-daughter and faithful lady-in-waiting Mlle. de Durfort, who married Henri Georges César de Chastellux, her chevalier d'honneur. The devotion of these faithful friends to the princess in her exile led to the seizure and sale of their château in 1793, but it was bought in and preserved from destruction by the Countess-Dowager.

'Les deux comtesses de Chastellux, jeunes, jolies, et mises avec la simplicité de leur âge, formaient un contraste frappant avec la gothique attitude de toute la vieille cour de Mesdames de France.'—'*Mémoires de la Duchesse d'Abrantes.*'

The neighbouring village of *Quarre-des-Tombes* takes its name from one hundred and fifty stone coffins found here. In the church is the tomb of Olivier de Chastellux, 1617.

A carriage for the day to (15 k.) Vézelay costs (one horse) 25 fr. There are two roads, but tourists should insist upon their driver taking that which passes (3½ k.) *Pontaubert*, with a Templar's church of the end of XII. c. with a narthex. The font is XVI. c. (1 k. hence is the xv. c. château of *Vault de Lugny*.)

By a very slight deviation (this should be mentioned before setting out) the travellers may cross the exceedingly picturesque ravine of *Pierre-Perthuis*, by a wide lofty arch above a gorge where the Cure forces its way between precipitous rocks. There is an older grey stone bridge in the hollow, and a church (XI. c. and xv. c.) is perched on the cliffs amid the ruins of an old castle.

[7½ k. from hence, passing the xv. c. château of *Domcy-sur-Cure*, and the XII. c. ruins of the abbey of *Chore*, is *Bazoches*, with a church of XII. c., modernised in XVI. c. Under its apsidal chapels, re-built by Vauban in 1688, is the vault where his heart reposed till it was moved to the Invalides by Napoléon I. in 1809. The xv. c. *Château de Bazoches* (Comtesse de Vibraye) is a very interesting building, finely situated on the steep edge of a hill. It was bought by Vauban in 1675, and partly rebuilt by him. The furniture of his room and his armour are preserved.]



We have long seen Vézelay on its round hill, the outlines of the huge church being more effective at a distance than close by. At the foot of the hill, we find the village of *S. Père-sous-Vézelay*, with the remains of the original monastery, founded by Gérard de Roussillon and his wife Bertha, daughter of Pépin, king of Aquitaine. It was destroyed by the Normans, after which it was moved for security to the height where the church of the Madeleine now stands. Most beautiful is the later gothic *Church of S. Pierre* of c. 1240, with its exquisite XIII. c. tower, which was surmounted in the XIV. c. by a wooden spire, covered with shingles.

‘Si la composition générale du clocher de Saint-Père est remarquable, facile à comprendre, les détails, tels que les profils et la sculpture, sont exécutés avec cette hardiesse et cette franchise qui appartiennent au style bourguignon du XIII<sup>e</sup> siècle. Les angles, avec leurs colonnettes détachées de la masse et reliées aux piles par des bagues et les tailloirs des chapiteaux, rompent la sécheresse de ces angles et conduisent l’œil aux silhouettes ajourées des pinnacles.’—*Viollet le Duc*.

The narthex which precedes the church is one of the largest specimens known of these peculiar closed porches.

‘Ce porche s’ouvre sur la face antérieure par trois baies qui ne paraissent pas disposées pour recevoir des grilles ou des vantaux de bois; latéralement il était ajouré par des baies vitrées posées sur un bahut, de manière à garantir les fidèles contre le vent et la pluie.’—*Viollet le Duc*.

Above the porch is a great rose-window under an arch, over which rises a gable, divided into nine compartments, filled with niches containing figures of saints, whilst, above all, is the figure of Christ in benediction and crowned by angels. At each side are pinnacles. At the sides of the façade are two towers, of great size in proportion to the church, but only one of them completed.

The interior of the porch of S. Père is still untouched by restoration, and an artist will delight in it as an exquisite subject in colour, a beautiful tomb on one side breaking the lines of the pillars and arches. Another fine tomb is in the N. aisle, backed by a relief of S. Peter kneeling at the feet of the Saviour, and

presenting the church (?), while the Madonna and angels with censers stand by. The triforium is peculiar, and rises by steps to a higher level on reaching the choir, which has two square and three hexagonal chapels

A winding road leads up the hill from S. Père to *Vézelay* (Hotel: *de la Poste*—pleasantly situated outside the gate).

Founded in IX. c. round the monastery of Gérard de Roussillon, *Vézelay* was the place where S. Bernard preached the second crusade, in the presence of Louis VII., who took the cross there.

‘La semaine sainte de l’an 1146 arriva: le roi, l’abbé de Clairvaux, “fortifié de l’autorité apostolique et de sa propre sainteté,” et la multitude des seigneurs convoqués, se réunirent au lieu convenu. “Comme il n’y avait point assez de place dans le château ni dans la ville pour contenir le peuple immense accouru de toutes parts, on avait construit au dehors, dans la plaine qui domine la montagne de Vézelay, une machine de bois (une sorte d’estrade ou de tribune), afin que l’abbé de Clairvaux pût parler d’en haut à l’assemblée. Bernard monta sur cette chaise, avec le roi paré de sa croix, et, lorsque cet orateur du ciel eut, comme à l’ordinaire, répandu la rosée de la parole divine, un cri générale s’éleva: *Des croix! des croix!* Les croix que le saint abbé avait fait préparer d’avance furent bientôt épuisées; il fut forcé alors de couper ses propres vêtements pour en tailler d’autres croix, et il ne cessa de vaquer à cette oeuvre tant qu’il resta à Vézelay, confirmant sa prédiction par de nombreux miracles.”

‘Les discours de Bernard, secondé par l’appui du roi, eurent à Vézelay un succès extraordinaire; avec Louis le Jeune et la reine Éléonore se croisèrent les évêques de Noyon, de Langres, de Lisieux; Alphonse-Jourdain, Comte de Toulouse et Marquis de Provence, qui s’était réconcilié avec le roi, sans doute à l’occasion de la guerre sainte: Thierrî d’Alsace, Comte de Flandre; Henri, fils de Thibaud, Comte Palatin de Champagne et de Chartres; le Comte Robert de Dreux et le Sire Pierre de Courtenai, frères du roi; beaucoup d’autres comtes et barons, plusieurs milliers de cavaliers, et une multitude de gens du peuple. “Après que l’on fut convenu de partir au bout d’une année, tous se retournèrent joyeusement chez eux.”—*Martin, ‘Hist. de France.’*

At this same Vézelay, Philippe-Auguste and Richard Coeur de Lion took the cross in 1187.

A steep street, with occasional old houses, leads from the gate to the platform on the hill top once occupied by the great monastery of *La Madeleine*, founded 868 for Benedictine nuns, and, ten years afterwards, given to monks, of whom Eudon or Odon was the first abbot. In the middle of the x. c. the abbey was burnt, and it was never fully rebuilt till its restoration was ordered by Duc Henri de Bourgogne in 1008-11.

Little remains now except the magnificent church—the largest romanesque church in the world, and one of the finest ecclesiastical buildings in France. It was greatly mutilated in the wars of religion, and at the Revolution was turned into a temple of Reason. Recently it has been restored under Viollet le Duc.

The façade is a very ancient gothic restoration ill adjusted to a romanesque base. Of the two romanesque towers, that on l. was thrown down by the Protestants in 1569, and in xix. c. a kind of observatory was erected on the other. The great unfinished open gable replaced the romanesque gable in the xiv. c.

‘D’après ce qui reste, il est facile de se faire une idée de cette façade, telle qu’elle était lors de la construction primitive : trois portes principales cintrées, avec des archivoltes et des tympan richement sculptés, étaient précédées d’une montée de quelque gradins. Deux tours carrées, médiocrement élevées, encadraient la façade, et se réunissaient par une galerie, dont quelques parties subsistent encore dans la tour du droite. Au-dessus de cette galerie, suivant toute apparence, s’élevait un fronton triangulaire.’  
—*Prosper Mérimée*.

A great vestibule—narthex—of xii. c. precedes the nave, and is still called *le Porche des Catéchumènes*. This porch has now to be opened by a sacristan, but was formerly scarcely regarded by the people as part of the church : men wore their hats and children played there. Nowhere, however, is any church interior more magnificent than that which is to be seen, when the great doors here are opened, of the immense vista of arches framed in the glorious central portal, which is one of the most remarkable and strange works of the middle-ages, and has served as a type

to endless XII. c. churches, in Burgundy, Champagne, and part of the Lyonnais. The tympanum of the central portal represents Christ giving the Holy Spirit to the Apostles; that on the r. has the Adoration of the Magi; that on the l. the Resurrection. On the base of the statue of John Baptist, on the central portal is inscribed, 'Agnoscant omnes quia dicitur iste Johannes . . . et populum demonstrans indice Christum.'

'We find disproportioned figures in garments with formal folds and fluttering ends in the important sculptures of the abbey church at Vézelay. At the principal portal we see the solemn figure of Christ enthroned among the apostles, accompanied by a number of smaller scenes. We see here how the artists of these provinces struggled to produce a new conception of sacred personages, and thus fell into a new kind of formalism strangely combined with fantastic devices. In the capitals and in the interior of this church, this exaggerated tendency gave way to a far coarser and more naturalistic style.'—*Lübke*.

'Au milieu d'un immense tympan est représenté le Sauveur dans sa gloire. Cette figure, de dimension colossale, est évidemment exécutée sous l'inspiration d'artistes byzantins, si ce n'est par eux-mêmes. En cette sculpture, étrange, mais imposante à la fois, le Christ est vêtu d'une longue robe flottante, plissée à petits plis, suivant un usage oriental fort ancien et conservé jusqu'à nos jours. La brise semble soulever les longs plis de sa robe.'—*Viollet le Duc*.

The immense nave of 1011-50 is of two characters: the first has simple romanesque cylindrical vaulting, strengthened by double arches adorned with zig-zags and roses; the second is higher and gothic, with crossed ribs. At the end of the nave (on r.) is a good wall tomb of a sainted bishop of Auxerre, who retired hither as a monk. The short rectangular transepts have square chapels. Three steps lead to the choir, which is probably early XIII. c., and is surrounded by eight circular monolith pillars, with pointed vaulting and arcades, and five radiating chapels. Beneath is a crypt supported by twelve columns. The way in which the Lady Chapel is united to the church is here (as at Sens) especially graceful and remarkable. There is scarcely



any church where greater delicacy and finish of sculpture is found than at Vézelay.

‘C’est surtout la richesse et la variété de l’ornementation qui distinguent l’église de Vézelay. Les chapiteaux, je ne parle que des plus anciens, sont tous différents. Les uns représentent des sujets bibliques, d’autres les supplices des damnés, quelques-uns des chasses, ou bien des animaux inventés par la caprice du sculpteur. On y voit des diables pourvus de cornes et de queues, tourmentant les damnés. D’autres chapiteaux, mais en plus petit nombre, offrent des ornements bizarres, ou bien des feuillages capricieusement agencés. Plusieurs sont ornés de fleurs, entre autres de roses, assez bien exécutés. La forme générale de tous est une pyramide tronquée, dont les angles sont arrondis. Presque toutes les bases sont garnies de moulures de perles ou de palmettes. Pour l’ornementation, les piliers de la partie ogivale de la nef ne diffèrent en rien de ceux de la partie la plus ancienne; quant à ceux du choeur, ils n’ont que de simples moulures surmontés d’un tailloir.’—*Prosper Mérimée*.

From the r. transept is the entrance to the *Chapter House*, supported by two great pillars. It is said that it was in this hall that the weeping monks assembled before being finally dispersed, when driven out of their convent by an insurrection of their vassals in XII. c.<sup>1</sup> Some romanesque arcades remain of the cloister, which contains a XII. c. well. A gothic portal of the abbot’s house exists, but it is for the most part impossible to distinguish the exact site of the buildings, which, as at Cluny, were so vast that kings, with all their followers, could lodge in them without disturbing any of the usual inhabitants. Part of the site of the abbey is now occupied by a terrace, whence there is a striking view.

The belfry of the church of *S. Père-le-Haut* (XII. c.) is now a clock tower: *S. Étienne* (XIII. c.) is a market: the church of the *Cordeliers* is in ruins. A little ruined XII. c. *Chapel* is said to mark a spot where S. Bernard preached. Of the ancient walls, the *Porte Neuve* (XV. c.) remains on the side towards Auxerre. Several houses are of the XII. c.: one in the Grand’ Rue of XV. c.: one on the Place of XVI. c. A house is marked as the birthplace,

<sup>1</sup> *La Chronique de Hugues de Poitiers.*

in 1519, of the Calvinist leader, Théodore de Bèze, who converted the king of Navarre. After the death of Calvin, he was considered the leader of the Reform, but employed great violence in the promulgation of his doctrines.

The little town of Vézelay was remarkable in the XII. c. for its rebellion against its lords, heirs of Gérard de Roussillon, who refused to recognise its charter. Upon this it constituted itself a commune, surrounding itself with walls and towers, which were



LES NOYERS DE S. BERNARD.

afterwards demolished by the abbot, who had to call in the assistance of Louis le Jeune.

'Vézelay n'est pas même un chef-lieu de sous-préfecture, et cette simple bourgade eut, il y a près de sept cents ans, l'audace de faire une révolution pour son compte.'—*Thierry, 'Lettres sur l'Hist. de France.'*

To 1. as you face the W. front of the church (or following the avenues from Hôtel de la Poste), a stony little path between vineyards leads down the side of the hill towards the village of

Asquin, to a turfy spot with a cross shaded by old walnut-trees—*Les Noyers de S. Bernard*,—where S. Bernard is said to have preached the second crusade.

The road from Avallon to Montbard passes at 12½ k. the fine ruined castle of *Montfort* (mons fortis), rebuilt by Frédéric-Casimir, Prince Palatine of Landsberg, who married the daughter of Guillaume, Prince of Orange, to whom the domains of the Barons de Montfort had come by marriage. The heirs of Frédéric-Casimir sold it to the family of Louvois. It was ruined at the Revolution.

Leaving Avallon, the railway passes (l.) within 2 k. of *Sauvigny-le-Bois*, with remains of the XII. c. priory (church and cloister) of *S. Jean-des-Bons-Hommes*.

65 k. *La Maison Dieu*. 6 k. N. are the ruined castle and XII. c. church of *Montréal*.

[A line runs S. to (79 k.) Autun (see ch. i.), by—

76 k. (from Auxerre) *S. André-en-Terre-Plaine*. R. is *S. Magnance*, where the XVI. c. church contains the shrine of S. Magnance, one of the holy women who brought back the body of S. Germain from Ravenna to Auxerre in 548. The manor of *Château-Jacquot*, defended by two great towers, is XIV. c.; the ruins of *Château-Gaillard* are XVI. c.

90 k. *La-Roche-en-Brénil*. The fine moated château is late XVI. c.

104 k. *Saulieu* (Hotels: *de la Poste*; *du Chapeau Rouge*), formerly the capital of Morvan, is supposed to have derived its Roman name of Sidolocum (Solis locus or lucus?) from its worship of the sun, though others derive it from a military station (sedis locus).

The abbey church of *S. Andoche*, at the highest point in the town, was rebuilt at the beginning of XII. c., and consecrated in 1119. The original choir was destroyed by the English in 1359, and of the ancient church only the nave remains. The two towers of the façade are Burgundian romanesque. In the interior the capitals of the pillars are taken from the New Testament. Over the entrance is an admirable wooden tribune of the end of XV. c. The stalls are good specimens of XIII. c. At the end of the choir

is the precious tomb of S. Andoche, of the v. c., covered with sculpture, of which the authenticity has been doubted.

The church of *S. Saturnin*, beyond the S. end of the town, is surrounded by a graveyard, which contains three curious Gallo-Roman grave stones, one lying against the side wall of the church, the others erect. A little pyramid commemorates the last descendant of the Minister Sully, who died in 1807.

[28 k. S.W. of Saulieu is *Arnay-le-Duc* (Hotels: *de la Poste*; *du Soleil*), famous for the battle, in 1570, between Admiral Coligny and the Maréchal de Cossé-Brissac, in which Henri IV. at sixteen made his first essay as a soldier. The place where his tent was pitched is still called *pâtis-au-roi*. Ruins exist of an ancient priory and a parish church, and one tower of the castle. Opposite the Hôtel de la Poste is the house where Bonaventure des Périers (an author of xvi. c.) was born. The old *Château de la Motte-Forte* has a good doorway and dormer windows of the Renaissance.]

113 k. *Liernais*. The church is xi. c. Only a few fragments remain of the castle.

149 k. Autun. See ch. i.]

[Another route from Avallon to (100 k.) Autun passes through (61 k.) the exceedingly interesting and curious old town of *Château-Chinon* (Hotels: *du Commerce*; *du Lion d'Or*), above the Yonne, in a most picturesque district of the Morvan. To the E. is the dolmen called *Maison du Loup*.]

[For the road to Aisy by Montréal see ch. i.]

Passing l. *Cisery*, with a castle of xv. c., the line to Laumes reaches—

70 k. *Guillon*, where, in a castle now destroyed, peace was concluded (March 10, 1360) between the Burgundians and Edward III. of England. The church is xiii. c. 2 k. is *Savigny-en-Terre-Plaine*, which has a xii. c. church with xvi. c. tower, and tombs, with statues, of the Marquis de



Ragny, the friend of Henri IV. and his wife Catherine de Cypierre. The château of *Ragny* was built under Louis XIII.

77 k. *Époisses*, which has an old castle, supposed to have been built by Brunehaut, still belonging to the family of Guitaut, and often mentioned, with them, in the letters of Mme. de Sévigné. It contains some interesting portraits,



WALLS OF SÉMUR.

and has a XII. c. chapel, used as the parish church. The line passes (r.) the castle of *Forléans*.

90 k. *Sémur* (Hotels: *de la Côte d'Or*—good; *du Commerce*), a most picturesque town, on a promontory surrounded on three sides by the Armançon. It existed in v. c.

The splendid church of *Notre Dame* was built in XI. c., by Robert I., Duc de Bourgogne, as an expiatory offering

for the murder of his father-in-law Dalmace. It was rebuilt XIII. c., repaired XIV. c., and is a noble specimen of Burgundian gothic. The church is approached from the W. by an open porch, within which are three portals, divided by square pillars supporting figures of saints in pinnaced niches. On the N. of the church is a curious portal, the tympanum of which represents the crime and repentance of Robert I. The effect of the interior is somewhat marred by its narrowness in proportion to its great height. The chapels on l. have some good fragments of stained glass and reliefs, much injured in the Revolution. In the 2nd chapel is a curious S. Sépulcre, and, at the end of the l. aisle, a beautiful gothic tabernacle, used to contain the holy oil. The triforium is decorated with projecting heads of admirable sculpture. The space taken from the people by the extreme narrowness of the nave, is given back to them by the double side-aisles of the choir, which are the whole width of the transept. The choir itself, 1220-30, has three chapels.

‘Une des plus belles clefs (de voûte) que nous connaissons, se trouve sculptée au-dessus du sanctuaire. Cette clef représente le couronnement de la Vierge au milieu de feuillages. Le Christ s’appuie sur le livre saint et bénit sa mère. Un ange pose la couronne divine sur la tête de Marie. Deux autres anges sortant à mi-corps des branchages, portent chacun un cierge. Toute la sculpture qui couvre le plateau, de près d’un mètre de diamètre, est complètement peinte, les feuillages en vert, les fonds en brun rouge, et les vêtements des deux personnages de diverses couleurs, dans lesquelles le bleu et rouge dominant.’—*Viollet le Duc*.

There is a very curious double gateway opposite the Hôtel de la Côte d’Or. Several wells have fine specimens of wrought-iron work in their canopies. Further down the

promontory of Sémur is the *Château*, of XIII. c. Only the four enormous circular towers at the angles remain, of great height towards the river. The space within them is occupied by the houses of the town. Nearer the end of the



GATEWAY, SÉMUR.

promontory is the *Hospital*, with a pleasant garden. On the ramparts are several public walks.

[An excursion should be made (3 k.) from Sémur to the château of *Bourbilly* which belonged to the famous Mère Marie Chantal, widow of the Baron de Rabutin-Chantal, the friend of S. Vincent de Paul and grandmother of Mme. de Sévigné,

beatified in 1751 and canonized in 1767. Her oratory and chapel are preserved.]

[A road of 70 k. leads from Sémur to Dijon by—

15 k. *Pont-Royal*. 4 k. r. is *S. Thibault*, where the XIII. c. church has a magnificent portal enriched with statuettes and bas-reliefs. The choir and a chapel are XIV. c.

22 k. *Vitteaux* (Hotel: *de la Poste*) on the Brenne. The demolition of its château, now ruined, was ordered by Henri IV. for its resistance during the wars of Religion.

50 k. *Pont-de-Pany*, whence the Château de Montculot may be visited. See p. 59.]

[The road from Sémur to (28 k.) Saulieu (diligence) passes—  
14 k. *Maison-Neuve*. L. 3 k. is the very ancient *Château de Thil*, rebuilt at the end of the XII. c. The church is XI. c. and XII. c.

19 k. *Montlay*. 3 k. is *La Cour d'Arcenay*, with a fine XVII. c. château.]

Continuing the railway, we reach—

101 k. *Marigny-le-Cahouet*, with a great castle flanked by four towers. On a bénitier in the church is a figure of Mercury.

104 k. *Pouillénay*. An old château, with four towers.

108 k. Les Laumes, on the main line from Paris to Lyon (see ch. i.)



## CHAPTER IV.

PARIS TO NÎMES, BY BOURGES. MONTLUÇON, CLERMONT-FERRAND (MONT DORE AND THE CURIOSITIES OF AUVERGNE AND CANTAL, S. FLOUR AND LE PUY). IN CHER, ALLIER, PUY-DE-DÔME, AND CANTAL.

The quickest route to Auvergne is that from the Gare de Lyon at Paris by the Chemin de Fer du Bourbonnais (Fontainebleau, Montargis, Nevers, Moulins, S. Germain des Fosses). But most English travellers will take Bourges on their way, which is reached, either by Vierzon (see *South-Western France*, ch. iv.), from which it is 32 k. distant, or by Corbeil (as here described), which is the shorter route by 12 k., and allows of a visit to Sully, though the journey takes much more time.

The trains for Corbeil from the Gare de Lyon cross an ugly plain, but approach the Seine on the r., and low wooded hills on l., where the main line is left at—

15 k. *Villeneuve-S.-Georges*. The line crosses the Seine to Juvisy, which has a station on the Orléans line (see *South-Western France*).

24 k. *Ris-Orangis*. Just beyond the station the line passes the *Château de Froment*, which once belonged to the Templars, afterwards to the Président de Thou, the historian, who had alluded to the profligacy of an uncle<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> 'Moine apostat et coupable de toutes sortes de crimes.'

of Richelieu in his works, which caused the Minister of Louis XIII. to exclaim: 'De Thou a mis mon nom dans son histoire; je mettrai son nom dans la mienne,' and De Thou himself having died in 1617, Richelieu beheaded his son in 1642. This is the station for the *Forest of Sénart*, which is traversed by the road from Paris to Melun, and is celebrated by an incident which occurred to Louis XV.

'Chassant un jour dans la forêt de Sénard, une année où le pain avait été extrêmement cher, il rencontra un homme à cheval portant une bière. "Où portez-vous cette bière?" dit le roi. "Au village de . . .," répond le paysan. "Est-ce pour un homme ou pour une femme?" "Pour un homme." "De quoi est-il mort?" "De faim," répond brusquement le villageois. Le roi piqua son cheval, et ne fit plus de question.'—*Mme. Campan*.

There are a number of fine châteaux near this, the most important being that of *Petit-Bourg*, pleasantly situated above the Seine, which belonged to the Duc d'Antin, legitimate eldest son of Mme. de Montespan, who received his mother's former lover and Mme. de Maintenon here with great honours. Louis XV. also often resorted hither with his mistresses. At the beginning of the Revolution the château was inhabited by the Duchesse de Bourbon. At the invasion of the Allies, Schwarzenberg established himself here and treated with Ney and Coullaincourt upon the abdication of Napoléon I. After the Restoration the château was restored by Aguado, Marquis de las Marismas.

30 k. *Eury-sur-Seine*, connected by a suspension bridge with *Étiolles*, which belonged to the husband of Mme. de Pompadour. In later days the château was inhabited by Count Walewski, Minister of Foreign Affairs to Napoléon III.

31 k. *Corbeil* (Hotels: *Bellevue*—near the bridge; *de la*

*Belle Image*—good and reasonable), a considerable town, at the meeting of the Essonne and the Seine, which is crossed by a handsome bridge of five arches. Of its five ancient churches only one remains, the collegiate church of *S.*



PORTE DU CLOITRE, CORBEIL.

*Exupère*, or *S. Spire*, founded by Haymon, first Comte de Corbeil, in 950, rebuilt 1144, and served till 1790 by a chapter composed of a secular abbé, twelve canons, and six chaplains. It is approached by a very picturesque gateway, *Porte du Cloître*, from the principal street.

The W. porch is under the tower. In a chapel r. of the principal entrance is the tomb of Count Haymon, who is said to have built the church in honour of a victory over a two-headed dragon, and who died on his return from a pilgrimage to Italy seven years after its foundation. In the same chapel is the monument of Jacques de Bourgoin, who founded the College of Corbeil in 1661. The curious shrine of S. Spire was melted down at the Revolution. In the collegiate buildings Abélard established his school, when he fled from Melun.

Nothing remains of the church of S. Jean de l'Ermitage, which contained the relics of SS. Quirin and Pience; of Notre Dame, which claimed to have those of S. Yon; or of S. Jean en l'Isle, founded by Isemburge, the divorced Danish wife of Philippe-Auguste, who was buried in its S. transept (1256), under a fine tomb, bearing a metal effigy. Near this church was the Palais de la Reine, usually given as a residence to queens-dowager of France, where the chamber of Isemburge was preserved till the Revolution, when it perished like the tomb. Near the bridge, on the left bank of the river, was the château where Charles VIII. imprisoned the famous Georges d'Amboise in 1487.

Twenty minutes' walk from Corbeil is the manufacturing village of *Essonnes*, where Bernardin de S. Pierre had a cottage, which still exists, though much altered.

41 k. *Mennecey*, with a XIII. c. church, near which the Ducs de Villeroy had a fine château, which perished in the Revolution.

53 k. *La Ferté Alais* (Firmitas Adelaïdis) has an interesting XII. c. church, with a stone spire,



60 k. *Boutigny*, with an old gateway. The church is XII. c.

65 k. *Maisse* (7 k. E. is *Milly*, with a XIII. c. church, containing a sculptured rétable offered to S. Julienne. The château dates from 1479, and the curious halles are of the same period.

77 k. *Malesherbes*. The church (XII. c. and XIII. c.) has an octagonal tower and contains a S. Sépulcre, sculptured, in 1622, for the Convent of Cordeliers. A bust of M. de Malesherbes was given by Louis XVIII. In the churchyard is a curious XIII. c. tomb. The château, originally xv. c., but rebuilt, is still inhabited by the descendants of the brave defender of Louis XVI. On the N. is the restored xv. c. Château de Rouville.

[A line diverges W. to (64 k.) Orléans, by—

9 k. *Manhecourt*. The church is XI. c. The neighbouring church of *Coudray* is also XI. c. The line passes r. *Ramoulu*, with church of XII. c. and cross of 1636.

19 k. *Pithiviers* (Hotels : *de la Poste ; de Paris*). The church, dedicated to S. Salomon, king of Brittany, murdered in 874, is chiefly renaissance, but has a fine XIV. c. tower with a modern spire. On the Place de la Mairie is the XII. c. tower of S. *Georges*. 6 k. E. is *Yèvres-le-Châtel*, with a church of XI. c. and XIII. c., once the chapel of the castle, which dates from the XIII. c., and is a very striking and picturesque ruin.

39 k. *Escrennes*, has an XI. c. church.

32 k. *Montigny* (2½ k.) has a fine xv. c. church.

38 k. *Neuville-aux-Bois*. 5 k. W. the church of *Villereau* is XVI. c., with a beautiful tabernacle and good glass of the date.]

83 k. *La Brosse*. 2 k. W. is the *Château d'Augerville*, which belonged to Berryer.

89 k. *Puiseaux*, which rose around a famous Augustinian

priory, founded by Louis Le Gros, in 1112. The church, of XII. c. and XIII. c., has a tall modern spire, a remarkable XIII. c. façade, and a beautiful xv. c. chapel and S. Sépulcre.

102 k. *Beaune-la-Rolande*, has a fine church, built by Charles VII., with a curious fortified porch, and a roman-esque crypt containing the bones of S. Pipe, 1309. Here the line to (16 k.) Montargis (see ch. ii.) diverges to l.

116 k. *Bellegarde*. Here we cross the line from Montargis to Orléans.

143 k. *Les Bordes*, which has a station (close by) on the line from Gien to Orléans.

150 k. *Sully* (Hotel: *de la Poste*—very good, but horrors), which, from the ix. c., had a lord who was one of the four 'hauts barons' of France, and was of a house to which Eudes and Maurice, Bishops of Paris, and Henri de Sully, Archbishop of Bourges, belonged. From the family of Sully the barony passed to that of La Trémouille. It was purchased by the famous Minister of Henri IV., who erected it into a duchy for his friend, whose descendants occupied the château till 1807, when the last Duc de Sully died. At one end of the street stands the church, at the other the castle, standing in a wide moat close to the Loire, which is crossed by a suspension bridge. The buildings dated from the xiv. c., but were much altered by the great Sully, who pulled down the church of S. Ythier and built on its site the great Tour de Béthune, in which his 'Oeconomies' were afterwards printed. After the murder of Henri IV. Sully occupied his retirement here in dictating that work to four secretaries. Sometimes he resided at Capdenac, and during one of these absences his wife, Rachel de Cochefilet, opened the château

to the Calvinists, but it was soon taken from them by the royalist troops. Sully died (1641) at his property of Villebon, near Chartres. Chapelle and Chaulieu were received at Sully in 1661. Voltaire, who was twice there (1716 and



CHATEAU DE SULLY.

1719), wrote his *Oedipe* and *Artémire*, and sketched the plan of his *Henriade* there.

The château (Comte de Béthune-Sully) is not shown to strangers, but its tourelles, gateway, and old-fashioned garden are well seen from the road. The rooms of Sully are in the S.E.

wing. His bedroom (now a dining-room) contains his portrait and that of the duchess, his grand-daughter. The sculptures of the panelling recall the office of Sully as Grand Master of Artillery. Close by is the cabinet in which he worked with his secretaries. In the great salon of the first floor, adorned with a portrait of Henri IV., the *Oedipe* and *Artémire* of Voltaire were represented for the first time. The statue of Sully in the courtyard was executed for his wife by an Italian sculptor: it belonged originally to Villebon, and after the Revolution was preserved for some time in the Musée des Monuments.

From Sully an excursion may be made to S. Benoît-sur-Loire (see *South-Western France*, ch. i.).

175 k. *Argent*. Here we cross the line from Gien to Romorantin.

184 k. *Aubigny Ville*, on the Nère. This town, which existed in the XI. c., with strong walls and castle, was a fief given by Charles VII. to the Scottish Constable, Sir John Stuart, of Darnley, to whose assistance he owed his victory in the battle of Beaugé. Sir J. Stuart and his brother were both afterwards killed at the siege of Orléans. Sir J. Stuart was the direct ancestor of Henry Lord Darnley, and of the present earl: his descendants possessed Aubigny till 1673. Robert Stuart, Maréchal d'Aubigny, who built two castles here in the reigns of Louis XII. and François I., is represented in a window. The Stuart arms still remain in several places. Louis XIV. bestowed Aubigny upon the Duchess of Portsmouth, former mistress of Charles II. The church, built or altered from XII. c. to XIV. c., has XVII. c. stalls. The ancient château is used as a gendarmerie.



There are some good timber houses here of the XVI. c., the best near the church. During the wars of the Ligue, the Duc de la Châtre besieged Aubigny, but the inhabitants, encouraged by the example of Catherine de Balzac, widow of Esmé Stuart, Duke of Lennox, made such resistance that he was compelled to raise the siege.<sup>1</sup>

199 k. *La-Chapelle-d'Angillon*. Its *Château de Béthune*, of xv. c. and XVI. c., was restored by Sully, of whom one of its towers bears the name.

209 k. *Henrichemont*, the station for a town founded by Sully, and named after his master. The line traverses the *Forest of S. Palais*, passing on r. the remains of the Cistercian abbey of *Loroy*, now a farm.

223 k. *S. Martin-d'Auxigny*. To the N.E., on the edge of the *Forest of Allogny*, is the (xv. c.) *Château des Dames*, which belonged to Agnes Sorel, and where some furniture of her time is preserved. Long before reaching Bourges the mighty cathedral is seen dwarfing all around it into the utmost insignificance.

237 k. *Bourges* (Hotels : *de la Boule d'Or ; de France*), once the capital of Berry ; now the capital of the Département du Cher, 'surrounded by plains of bitter ugliness,'<sup>2</sup> has some remains of its Roman walls, supposed to be those of Avaricum, the principal town of the Bituriges. It was here that the Council of 1225 was held, after which Louis VIII. set out on his Albigensian crusade. Bourges was the birthplace of Bourdaloue (Aug. 20, 1632), and of Boucher.

On the highest point of the hill is the magnificent

<sup>1</sup> See A. Buhot de Kersey, '*Statistique Monumentale du Département du Cher*. Canton d'Aubigny.'

<sup>2</sup> Stendal.

archiepiscopal *Cathedral of S. Etienne*, one of the most beautiful ecclesiastical buildings in France, begun in the first years of the XIII. c. and consecrated in 1324. It is 144 mèt. in length and 37 mèt. in height below the vaulting. The incomparable W. façade has five deeply recessed portals, approached by steps, and ornamented with most varied sculpture. There are no transepts, and though this is one of the shortest cathedrals in France, owing to its central aisle being wholly unbroken it appears one of the longest, as it undoubtedly is one of the most majestic.<sup>1</sup>

The central portal, which is double the size of the others, represents the Last Judgment, and has a noble figure of Christ throned between lovely angels and kneeling saints. Below are S. Michael weighing souls, and devils in tumultuous action. The canopies of the four side portals are all different, and that on the extreme left most exquisite. Their reliefs represent the lives of the Virgin, S. Ursus, S. Étienne, and S. Guillaume. The difference in size between the two W. towers adds much to the effect of the building by the variety given to the outline. Both are unfinished. They are divided by an immense and glorious XIV. c. window. On the l. tower is a metal canopy of XVI. c., sheltering the bell of the clock. The r. tower is called *Tour Sourde*. A great feature of the W. front is the immense buttress of the XIV. c. on the S.W. The two side portals are relics of the XII. c. cathedral, and have porches of the XV. c., most beautiful in the delicacy of their open tracery.

‘The cathedral has no transept, and consequently its internal length is unbroken throughout. Two aisles run on each side,

<sup>1</sup> See Fergusson.

and round the apsidal choir ; these, as at Milan, are different in height, but (as is not the case at Milan) the most is made of this difference. Above the enormously lofty pier arches of the nave is a well-developed triforium and a large clerestory. The adjacent aisle, corresponding in height to these pier arches, and itself loftier than many of our English cathedrals, has its own pier arches (which correspond with the outer aisle), triforium, and clerestory. Its outer aisle has the usual range of windows. Such of these as are original consist of single-pointed lights.



IN THE CATHEDRAL, BOURGES.

The clerestory of the intermediate aisle has a two-light geometrical window, without foliation, but with complete tracery. The main clerestory is a window of three unfoliated lights, with a foliated circle in the head, and incomplete tracery—that is, unpierced spandrels. The apse is semi-circular, and its windows are smaller. Most of the windows are filled with the finest stained glass.

The lower apsidal aisle has small radiating chapels crowned with spires, some of them being supported in a curious manner by brackets, shafts, and masses of masonry.—*J. L. Petit.*

Nothing can exceed the beauty of the grey-brown colouring of the interior, to which the magnificent stained glass gives gleams of splendour, while the richly-wrought iron grilles of the choir add greatly to the effect. Over a side door on the N. is the quaint little figure of which a woodcut is given, probably meant for S. Anne. Below the choir is a XIII. c. crypt, encircled by a romanesque crypt, which is used as the burial-place of the archbishops. In the central portion is the tomb of Jean le Magnifique, Duc de Berri, nephew of Charles V., and uncle of Charles VII., by whom the monument was erected. It is a grand and advanced specimen of the sculpture of the time.

‘The characteristic features of the face, and even the wrinkles, are given, certainly, with a little harshness; but the figure is full of life, even the noble hands are treated in a masterly manner, and the drapery is admirably arranged in dignified folds.’—*Lübke*.

This statue is possibly a work of André Béaneveu, of Hennegau, whom the Duc de Berri had called into his service.

On either side of the E. chapel kneel coloured effigies commemorating Maréchal de Montigny and his wife. A coloured stone entombment is of 1545.

‘The figure of Christ, which is worthily conceived, but with the most naturalistic expression of suffering, is supported by Joseph of Arimathea and Nicodemus. Behind stand S. John, who catches the fainting Mother, and Mary Magdalen with the ointment, besides some other figures and the donor.’—*Lübke*.

Columns applied externally to the lower church sustain the apsidal chapels above. The chapel erected at the expense of Jacques Coeur, by his son, Archbishop



Jean Coeur, is now used as a sacristy. Here, as well as in the rest of the cathedral, is most exquisite XIII. c. glass.

‘Jacques Coeur y paraît transfiguré dans les splendides vitraux sous le costume de saint Jacques, patron des pèlerins ; dans ses armes, trois coquilles de pèlerinage, triste pèlerinage, les coquilles sont noires ; mais entre sont postés fièrement trois coeurs rouges, le triple coeur du héros marchand. Le registre de l’église ne lui donne qu’un titre : “Capitaine de l’Église contre les Infidèles.” Du roi, de l’argentier du roi, pas un mot, rien qui rappelle ses services si mal reconnus ; peut-être, en son amour-propre de banquier, a-t-il voulu qu’on oubliât cette mauvaise affaire qui sauva la France, cette faute d’avoir pris un trop puissant débiteur, d’avoir prêté à qui pouvait le payer d’un gibet.’—*Michelet, ‘Hist. de France.’*

The glass of the W. window was given by the Duc de Berri.

On the S. of the cathedral, looking upon the very pretty public garden, is the handsome *Archevêché*, where Don Carlos of Spain resided as a state prisoner. The neighbouring *Grand Séminaire* has a chapel designed by Mansart.

Of the other churches, *Notre Dame*, of xv. c. and xvi. c., has a renaissance tower. *S. Pierre-le-Guillard* (XIII. c.) has an ambulatory with polygonal chapels. *S. Bonnet* (xv. c.) has an ambulatory, with square chapels, and contains several works of François Boucher, 1703-70, who was buried here with his mother. His epitaph, now destroyed, was—

‘Ci-git qui, s’occupant du talent de bien peindre,  
A pu quelque renom dans le monde acquérir ;  
Il aima les beaux-arts et ne sut jamais feindre,  
Et mieux encore il apprit à mourir.’

His virgins and saints are only nymphs and shepherdesses : his best picture was his portrait of Mme. de Pompadour.

The most remarkable specimen of domestic architecture in Bourges is the *Hôtel de Jacques Coeur*, begun in 1443, by the famous silversmith and finance minister of Charles VII. This is the building alluded to by Paul Hentzner, who, travelling to Bourges in 1598, speaks of 'habitations si vastes et si commodes qu'elles sembleraient convenir à



HOUSE OF JACQUES COEUR, BOURGES.

des héros plutôt qu'à des hommes.' The façade is a surpassingly rich specimen of the architecture of the period, with splendid flamboyant friezes, tourelle, etc. The niche over the entrance was originally occupied by an equestrian figure of Charles VII. The figures which still look out so quaintly from the side niches are supposed to represent the master and mistress of the house in an attitude of

welcome. Below the windows and in many other parts of the building, are hearts, pilgrims' cockle-shells, with the device of the sires de S. Fargeau (of whom Jacques Coeur had bought the land)—*a vaillans cuers (coeurs) rien impossible*. On the l. of the portal inside, is the exquisite little portico of the staircase leading to the chapel, decorated with reliefs of priests preparing for different religious ceremonies.

The beautiful courtyard is surrounded on three sides by an open cloister. On the fourth, facing the entrance, rise three tourelles; that in the centre is of unusual richness. Over its entrance are the palm, olive, and orange tree, emblematic of the traffic of Jacques Coeur with the East. On each storey are reliefs recalling the different phases of male and female industry in which the household were occupied—threshing, spinning, sweeping, etc. : over a door are vivid kitchen scenes. The Salle des Gardes and the Passage de Service have curious saddle vaulting in oak. In the former are two chimney-pieces. On one Jacques and his wife are represented playing at chess and eating oranges and pears; the other quaintly represents a fortress and its defenders. In an angle of the chimney-piece in the ante-chamber, is a tiny figure of the buffoon. The chapel (too much restored) has frescoed angels in the ceiling; the seats of Jacques and his wife have each their own little window and fireplace.

'Maison pleine de mystères, comme fut sa vie. On voit, à bien la regarder, qu'elle montre et qu'elle cache : partout on y croit sentir deux choses opposées, la hardiesse et la défiance du parvenu, l'orgueil du commerce oriental, et en même temps la réserve de l'*argentier* du roi. Toutefois la hardiesse l'emporte; ce mystère affiché est comme un défi au passant.'—*Michelet*.

Opposite the façade is a statue (by Préault, 1873), of Jacques Coeur. This magnificent citizen, whose fortune had been the prop of his king and country, and who, for a whole year, had furnished funds for the maintenance of four armies, did not bear his prosperity with sufficient moderation, and aroused the envy of the courtiers ; others, who



COURTYARD, HÔTEL ALEMANT.

had sold him lands, or owed him money, were equally jealous of him. At length the wife of one of his principal creditors (Jeanne de Vendôme) accused him of having poisoned Agnes Sorel, mistress of Charles VII. ; and though her witness was triumphantly refuted, Jacques Coeur was arrested and his property seized. Other accusations were speedily invented—he had embezzled the public money, he



had exported arms to the infidels, etc.—and he was condemned—the ungrateful Charles remitting his sentence of death on account of ‘certain services’—to the confiscation of all his wealth, to banishment for life, and to public penance. After eighteen months of imprisonment Jacques Coeur escaped to Provence, and thence, by the help of his nephew, Jean de Village, to Rome, where he was honourably received by Nicolas V. Whilst commanding an expedition against the Turks, he died in the Isle of Chios, in 1456, just when the force of public opinion in France had led to his justification and pardon.

The Maison de Jacques Coeur is now used as the *Palais de Justice*. Near it is a *Musée*, open from 11 to 5. The xv. c. *Hôtel de Ville*, flanked by a graceful stair-turret, is at 15, Rue de Paradis. No. 5, Rue Hôtel Alemant, is the *Hôtel Alemant*, a beautiful and venerable building, where the courtyard has medallions with heads, and an exquisite turret.

‘Je manque des termes pour exprimer la grâce, la délicatesse des arabesques et d’une foule d’ornements capricieux, prodigués sur cette seule tourelle : toute la finesse, toute la fantaisie qu’on aimerait à trouver dans un meuble à placer sur une table, le sculpteur l’a employée pour décorer les fenêtres, les chambranles, toutes les parties susceptibles de recevoir une ornementation.

‘On passerait des heures entières à étudier tous les caprices de cette charmante façade, et pourtant leur inconcevable variété ne fait que vous préparer à l’impression que va produire la chapelle ou plutôt un oratoire fort petit, admirable miniature sculptée, où tout le luxe est réservé pour le plafond. Formé de trois grandes dalles de pierre, il se dévise en trente caissons ou compartiments contenant des compositions différentes, de bas-relief, admirablement travaillées, et d’un effet merveilleux.’—*Prosper Mérimée*.

At 6, Rue des Arènes, is the *Hôtel Cujas*, once inhabited

by the famous lawyer of the name. It has two beautiful tourelles, and an inner court with admirable dormers, a giroflée is of great beauty. No. 17, Rue des Toiles (at the entrance of the street) is a very beautiful stone house of xv. c. Many of the timber houses, of xv. c. and xvi. c.,



HOTEL CUJAS.

deserve notice, and offer admirable details for the study of architects, especially in the great variety of their carved brackets and window-supports.

The convent of the *Annonciades* was founded by Jeanne, daughter of Louis XI., the innocent repudiated wife of Louis XII., who died here six years after her divorce.

[20 k. from Bourges, on the way to Sancerre (passing l. the

xv. c. *Château de Turly*, of the Archbishops of Bourges), is *Les Aix d'Angillon*, where the church has a remarkable xii. c. choir, chiefly romanesque of the xi. c. 3 k. further N.E. is the church of *Morogues*, containing some magnificent wood carving which formed the *banc d'oeuvre* in the Sainte Chapelle of Bourges.]



RUE DES TOILES, BOURGES.

[10 k. S., near the road [to] S. Amand, is the fine abbey church of *S. Martin de Plaimpied*, chiefly xii. c., but founded in 1080 by Richard, Archbishop of Bourges, whose tomb is destroyed, but whose statue is still to be seen in one of the aisles.]

'It is a cross church, consisting of nave, aisles, transepts,

apsidal chancel, with aisles which terminate in apses. A low square tower crowns the intersection. The transepts and choir have the pointed barrel roof; that of the nave is semi-domical. The compartment of the intersection has an octagonal cupola, not pierced for light. The choir is divided from the aisles by two round arches on each side. They have two orders, the outer one enriched with the torus. The south aisle of the nave has a plain cross vault without ribs. The nave is not vaulted, or at least does not show any vault at present. The pier arches are pointed, and have two plain square orders.'—*J. L. Petit.*]

[For the railway from Bourges to Vierzon see *South-Western France.*]

The line follows the valley of the Cher to—

255 k. (from Paris by the usual line) *Châteauneuf-sur-Cher*, with a renaissance château and modern church.

14 k. W., near Choeurs, is the abbey of *Chézal-Benoît*, founded 1093, with a fine, partially ruined church of XII. c. and XIII. c. The road passes *Marcuil-sur-Arnon*, which has important ruins of the *Abbaye de la Prée*, founded 1128. In the church is a fine S. Sépulcre.

269 k. *La Celle Bruère*. The church, which rather resembles that of Plaimpied, is an interesting building of XI. c.

4 k. is the *Abbaye de Noirlac*, of XII. c. and XIII. c., used as a china manufactory. The church is a fine transition building, with splendid XIII. c. cloisters.

277 k. *S. Amand Montrond*, has a ruined château and transition XII. c. church, with a romanesque portal. At *Orval* is an enamelled cross, given by S. Louis.

[An excursion may be made to (8 k. E.) the fine *Château de Meillant*, built by Charles d'Amboise, Seigneur de Chaumont, who died in 1511. It bears the same device of the



flaming hill, as his other great construction of Chaumont (there applicable to the name, but which had become his mark), and is a very noble and picturesque specimen of the Renaissance.]

286 k. *Ainay-le-Vieil*, with a xiv. c. and xvi. c. château.

303 k. *Vallon-en-Sully*, has a romanesque church, with a beautiful spire. 15 k. is the ruined xiv. c. *Château d'Hérisson*.

326 k. *Montluçon* (Hotels : *de France ; du Grand Cerf*). An ugly manufacturing town on the Cher. The church of *Notre Dame* is xv. c. ; *S. Pierre*, xi. c., xiii. c., and xvi. c. The xv. c. *Château*, which rises high in the midst of the town, is used as a barrack.

8 k. distant, on the road to Riom, is *Néris-les-Bains* (Hotels : *de Paris ; de la Promenade*), the *Aquae Neri* of the Romans, from which many excursions may be made to the ruined castles of Huriel, Marcillat, Murat, Hérisson, etc.

[For the line from Montluçon to Moulins see ch. ii.]

[A line runs N.W. to La Châtre by—

33 k. *Culan*, with a ruined xiii. c. castle.

45 k. *Châteaumeillant*. The romanesque church has a choir with seven apses.

52 k. *Champillet*. 3 k. is the (xii. c. and xvi. c.) *Château-de-la-Motte-Feuilly*. In the xv. c. church is the tomb of Charlotte d'Albret, the deserted wife of César Borgia.]

[For the line from Montluçon to S. Sulpice Laurière see *South-Western France*, ch. iv.]

[A line runs S. to (94 k.) Eygurande, on the line from Clermont to Ussel, by—

28 k. *Évaux*, which has an abbey church of xii. c. and xvi. c. and a bathing establishment known in Roman times. At *Chambon*, 6k. from Évaux, on the road from Châteauroux

to Clermont, is a most beautiful romanesque church of XI. c. and XII. c.

46 k. *Auzances*, with a church of XII. c. and xv. c.]

366 k. *Bellenaves*, has a curious early church, with an octagonal XIV. c. tower. The portal has sculptures of the Last Supper and Washing of the Feet.

9 k. N.E. is *Chantelle*, which had a magnificent castle of the Ducs d'Aquitaine, dismantled by François I. Little remains but a turret stair and the xv. c. building called *Manoir de Madame Anne* (de France). The (XII. c. and xv. c.) cloister and the beautiful romanesque church belonged to a monastery which the Ducs de Bourbon united to the château. In the parish church, a magnificent romanesque capital is employed as a bénitier.

The line passes on l. the town of *Charroux*, with a fortified belfry, and the *Château de Lignat*, before reaching—

384 k. *S. Bonnet-Ébreuil*. *S. Bonnet-de-Rochefort* has a XII. c. church with a curious romanesque porch: the choir is XIV. c. 5 k. S.W. is *Ébreuil*, with the magnificent romanesque church of a Benedictine monastery, chiefly XII. c. The sacristy contains a xv. c. shrine of S. Léger. The abbatial palace, of the XVII. c., has served as a hospice since the reign of Louis XV. The parish church is late XII. c.

2½ k. W. of S. Bonnet is the romanesque church of *Vicq*, with an octagonal tower. 3½ k. further W. is the restored *Château-de-Veauce*, flanked by towers: the church is romanesque.

394 k. *Gannat* (Hotel: *de la Poste*—very good, a quiet halting-place), a pleasant little town embosomed in verdure, dating from the x. c., but only retaining some

towers of its (xv. c.) fortifications and (xiv. c.) château. The church of *S. Croix* dates from the xi. c., though nothing remains of the original construction except the radiating chapels and some other parts of the choir. Some of the windows are by Jacques du Paroy, a pupil of Domenichino. A curious picture of the Adoration of the Shepherds, signed 'Guido Franciscus aniciensis, 1630,' is by a painter of Le Puy. 1 k. W. is the pilgrimage chapel of *S. Proculé*.

[A road leads E. to (19 k.) Vichy by (8 k.) *Cognat*, which has an admirable little xii. c. church.]

The line now enters the rich district of *La Limagne*, full of prosperous farms, thickly sprinkled with walnut trees. We pass (1.) near the *Butte de Montpensier*, the site of the old castle in which King Charles VIII. died, demolished by Richelieu in 1634. The Seigneurie of Montpensier belonged in turn to the houses of Auvergne, Beaujeu, Thouars, Ventadour, and Bourbon. It was made a duchy in 1539, in favour of Louis I. de Condé; then it passed by marriage to the house of Orléans, and gave the title of Mlle. de Montpensier to 'La Grande Mademoiselle.' The (honorary) title of Duc de Montpensier was held by the fifth son of Louis-Philippe.

408 k. *Aigueperse* (Hotel: *S. Louis*—bad and dirty), an ancient town in the plain. The church of *Notre Dame*, consecrated in 1259, is over-restored, and preserves nothing of its ancient construction but the transept, and the choir with its radiating chapels. A triforium of trefoil arches in triplets surrounds the whole building. Between the three original chapels, two others have been added in the xiv. c.

or xv. c. The *Chapelle des Morts* (built of lava of Volvic), opening from the S. transept, is xiv. c. The N. transept has a beautiful side portal. In the 2nd chapel, r. of choir, is a S. Sebastian—a good work of *Andrea Mantegna*. In the Haute Ville is *La Sainte-Chapelle*, founded (1475) by Louis I. de Bourbon, ending in an apse and flanked by two side chapels. Two very quaint marble statues represent the Virgin and Louis XII.



XIII. C. SHOPS AT AIGUEPERSE.

6 k. N.E. is the *Château d'Effiat* (chiefly modern), celebrated for the illustrious family to whom it belonged in the xvi. c. Antoine Coiffier Ruzé, born 1581, successively page to Henri IV., ambassador in England, marshal of France, and governor of the Bourbonnais for Louis XIII., inherited it from his maternal grandfather, Gilbert Coiffier, for whom Effiat was made a Marquisat. Of his three sons, the eldest, Cinq-Mars, was beheaded with De Thou for conspiring against Cardinal Richelieu; the second was the Chevalier d'Effiat, the friend of Philippe, Duc d'Orléans, sometimes accused of having assisted to poison his first wife, 'Madame;' the third



was the Abbé d'Effiat. Afterwards the property of Effiat belonged to Law, the great speculator, who abandoned it to his creditors.

13 k. E. is *Randan*, capital of the district of Randannois. Its seigneurie, made a count-ship under Louis XIII., became the property of the Duc de Choiseul-Praslin, who sold it, in 1821, to Mme. Adélaïde, sister of Louis-Philippe, by whom it was bequeathed to her nephew, the Duc de Montpensier. In the chapel the Duke placed copies of the tomb of his uncle in Westminster Abbey, and of the Comte de Beaujolais. On the bank of the Allier is the hunting lodge called *Château de Maumont*. Randan has been entirely closed to the public since the exile of the French princes.

425 k. *Riom* (Hotel : *de la Poste*), the ancient Ricomum, has wide streets, where all the frames of the doors and windows are of black Volvic lava. Fountains of clear water abound everywhere. In the lower part of the principal street, we find the church of *Notre Dame de Marthuret*, with a rich flamboyant portal between two towers. On the dividing pillar of the door is a graceful and much-revered statue, known as La Vierge à l'Oiseau. Higher up in the street, on the same side, is the xv. c. *Tour de l'Horloge*, with a dome of 1738. The cross street on the r. contains a most beautiful xvi. c. house. On the l. is the great church of *S. Amable*, consecrated 1120, partly romanesque, but much altered. The nave is romanesque, but with pointed vaulting; it has a triforium, but no clerestory. The central tower, crowned with an octagon, has a truncated spire of late gothic. The choir is a good specimen of xiv. c. The interior is spoilt by polychrome. The *Sainte Chapelle*, built by Jean, Duc de Berry, at the end of the xiv. c., and restored in the xv. c., is surmounted by a beautiful

gallery of open-work; its apse has fine restored (xv. c.) glass.

At the end of the N. faubourg of the name is the



STREET AT RIOM.

church of *Mozat*, which belonged to a Benedictine abbey, founded 681. It has a triple nave of xii. c.; in the sacristy are the enamelled shrine of S. Calmin, the renaissance shrine of S. Austremoine, and a splendid processional cross of the xii. c. In the garden, which

replaces the cloister, are a xvi. c. portal and curious bas-relief.

5 k. N.W. is the little bathing-place of *Châtelguyon-les-Bains* (Hotel: *Splendid*).

The excursion to (7 k.) Volvic and the Château de Tournœl (see later) is most conveniently made by carriage from Riom.



CHURCH OF MOZAT.

[A road leads E. from Riom to (41 k.) Thiers (see chap. ii.) by (10 k.) *Ennezat*, with a church founded 1060. The nave is of xi. c.; the transept and tower, xii. c.; the choir, xiii. c. and xiv. c.]

The line passes (r.) the ruined *Château de Châteaugay*, on a basaltic hill, built in 1381 by the Sire de Giac, Maréchal de France; on the l. is the plain of La Limagne,

431 k. *Gerzat*, with a romanesque (xii. c.) church.

438 k. *Clermont-Ferrand* (Buffet. Hotels : *de l'Europe*—very good, in a former convent ; *de la Poste* ; *de l'Univers*. All the hotels are more than 2 k. from the station), the capital of the Département du Puy de Dôme, is beautifully situated in a rich vine-clad district, beyond which rise the volcanic heights of Auvergne, the peculiar form of the Puy de Dôme being especially conspicuous.

The town had its origin in the Celtic Nemetum, to which Augustus transported the inhabitants of Gergovia, which Vercingetorix had defended against Caesar. The favours accorded to the place by the first Roman emperor gave it the name of Augustonemetum, which it kept till the end of the iv. c. S. Austremoine preached Christianity here in 250. In 1096, Pope Urban II. held the famous council here, which led to the first crusade.

The streets of Clermont are mostly narrow, steep, and tortuous, and the houses, built of black Volvic lava, have a very gloomy aspect.

The principal hotels are in the *Place de Jaude*, decorated with a statue of Desaix, by Nanteuil (1848). Hence the Rue de l'Écu and the Rue des Gras (r.) lead to the *Cathedral*, a striking but gloomy building, of Volvic lava. Begun in 1248, by the architect Jean Deschamps, it was consecrated in 1346, but has never been finished, and still wants its steps (1889). Its façade, in the style of the xiii. c., with two lofty spires, is an indifferent work of Viollet le Duc. The extreme grace and beauty of the gothic choir recalls that of Beauvais. The clerestory windows occupy the whole wall space. The apsidal windows have admirable xiii. c. glass. In the second



chapel on the S. of the choir is a curious xvi. c. rétable of the lives of SS. Crépin and Crépinian, given by the corporation of shoemakers. A quaint clock was a trophy carried off from Issoire during the wars of Religion. The



NOTRE DAME DU PORT, CLERMONT.

statue of the Virgin at the summit of the cathedral is due to a vow of the ladies of Clermont, if Auvergne was preserved from invasion in the war of 1870. This was the cathedral of Massillon, who did not hesitate to preach here against the local superstitions, such as 'la messe à l'âne.'

By the Rue Pascal and Rue du Port we reach the curious church of *Notre Dame du Port*, which owes its name to an ancient market which occupied the site. It was built by S. Sigon in 870, rebuilt, after Norman invasions, in the x. c., and is a most remarkable specimen of the peculiar romanesque of Auvergne. A portal of the xiv. c. is inserted in the perfectly plain façade. An inner porch, surmounted by a tribune, occupies the first bay of the nave. The other five bays of the long, narrow interior have side aisles with ribbed vaults, surmounted by cradle-vaulted tribunes. The arcades of the triforium, disposed in triplets, are three-lobed on the r. of the nave, semi-circular on the l. The primitive and principal entrance of the basilica is on the S. of the nave, bearing on its lintel rude reliefs of the Baptism of Christ and Adoration of the Magi; in the tympanum the Saviour between seraphim; and against the pillars statues of two apostles.

From the ambulatory of the choir open four radiating chapels; that usually found at the E. end is wanting, probably because the whole church is dedicated to the Virgin.<sup>1</sup> Most of the sculptures on the capitals represent the Virtues and Vices, as exemplified by knights. The semicircular crypt under the sanctuary contains a much revered black image of the Virgin, which was stolen in 1864, missing for several years, and then restored to its place. It is honoured by enormous pilgrimages, especially on May 15.

Notre Dame du Port is the especial church of the first crusade. It was here that Adhemar de Montreuil knelt after receiving the cross, and in the square near

Mérimée.

the church<sup>1</sup> Urban II. delivered the famous speech to which the hearers responded by the cry of 'Dieu le veut.'

By the *Cours Sablon*, at the central point of which is the beautiful *Fountain of Bishop Jacques d'Amboise*, 1515, we reach the *Jardin des Plantes*, or *Lecoq*. Here are the *Musée* and *Bibliothèque*.<sup>2</sup>

In the little *Carmelite* church near the cemetery is an ancient sarcophagus, sculptured with reliefs of the stories of the Woman of Samaria, Zaccheus, and the Resurrection of Lazarus. In the chapel of the nuns of the *Visitation* are the tombs of Cardinal Hugues Aycelin and Cardinal Nicholas d'Arfeuille. At No. 4, Rue des Chats, on the N. of the town, is the entrance to the *Fontaine de S. Allyre*, of famous petrifying powers, of which the incrustations have formed a natural bridge over the Tiretaine.

2 k. N. E. of Clermont (omnibus from the Place Délille, 15 c.) is the small ancient town of *Montferrand*, recalling many Italian towns by its red roofs and brown buildings. Many of its houses are XIII. c. and XV. c. The church (XIV. c. and XV. c.) was made collegiate in 1501 by Louis XII.

Omnibuses and street cars (25 c.) run every few minutes between the Place de Jaude and (2 k.) Royat, passing (1 k.) *Chamalières*, which has a church of the XI. c., much altered in XVI. c. and XVII. c. Two pillars of green marble in the inner porch belong to an earlier edifice of the VII. c.

*Royat* (Hotels: *Grand*; *Chabassière*; *Angleterre*; *Bristol*; *des Bains*; *de Lyon*; *Central*; *Victoria*; *de la Paix*, etc.) is a mineral bathing-place which has sprung into sudden

<sup>1</sup> Which nothing but the most inconceivable folly can call Place Délille instead of Place de la Croisade.

<sup>2</sup> The chief object of interest is the deed of gift of lands in Auvergne by Marguerite de Valois to her favourite, Canillac.

fame of recent years, before which it was a quiet village buried amongst walnut groves and vineyards. Overbuilding has done much to ruin the beauty of the place ; new roads are opened and the hillsides are spoilt by hideous hotels ; but the upper part of the gorge of the Tiretaine continues to be picturesque, where,



ROYAT.

amongst the rocks and walnut trees, rises a fortified church, founded in the VII. c. and rebuilt in XI. c., with a crypt of that date. The presbytery has remains of an old monastery. Opposite the church is a lava cross of 1486. From the Place de l'Église, a steep path leads to the torrent by the *Grotte des Sources*. Behind Royat, on the S., rises the lava-producing *Puy de Gravenoire*, which takes its name from the colour of its cinders or *graves*.



Pleasant short walks may be taken to *Fontanat*, where there are some remains of a Roman aqueduct, and to the *Gorge de Vaucluse*. Longer excursions (4 or 5 hours on foot) by (3 k.) *Beaumont*, with two romanesque churches, one of them in ruins, may be made to (6 k.) *Mont-Rognon* and (3 k. further) the *Plateau de Gergovie*, the site of the ancient city of the Gauls, and still retaining its ancient name.

An excursion of 7 hours (going and returning) may be made from Clermont to the *Puy de Dôme*. In summer, public carriages leave the Place de Jaude for (2 fr. 50 c.) the *Col de Ceyssat*, whence it is less than an hour's walk to the summit. The hill (1,465 mètr.) is entirely covered with turf.

'Sa masse est formée d'une variété de trachyte qu'on ne trouve que là et qui, pour cette raison, a été appelé *domite*. Cette rocher est poreuse, rude au toucher, blanche, et quelquefois fortement colorée, en jaune et en rouge. Dans les fissures de la montagne on trouve de beaux cristaux de fer oligiste. La porosité de cette pierre donne lieu à un phénomène assez remarquable; lorsque l'on frappe le sol avec force au sommet de la montagne, il resonance et frémit, comme s'il était composé d'une voûte étendue sur des vastes cavités.'—*Joanne*, '*Géog. de Puy de Dôme*.'

At the top of the mountain is an observatory in the construction of which the platform and foundations of an important *Temple of Mercury* have been discovered, and are quite worth visiting. A number of local proverbs celebrate the Puy de Dôme as if it were alive. It is the most distinctive of seventy or eighty volcanic cones which rise from the high upland. Its round grey mass overtops everything else. According to the local saying—

'Si Dôme était sur Dôme,  
On verrait les portes de Rome.'

Immediately N. is the crater of the little Puy, a deep cup of regular form, called by the peasants *Nid de la Poule*. The *Puy de Côme* is remarkable for the streams of lava which flow from it towards the valley of the Sioule. Two hours further is *Puy de Pariou* (which may be visited on the same day as the Puy de Dôme). Its crater, an amphitheatre of verdure around which

circle hundreds of parallel steps, not formed by the hand of man, but by generations of cows. A little N. is the cupola of the *Grand Sarcouy*, which the shepherds compare to a boiler reversed. The most curious volcano of the district is the *Puy Chopine*, a dome rising from a crater of scoria composed of granite rocks enclosed, like a slice of ham sandwich,<sup>1</sup> between a layer of basalt and a layer of trachyte. Lastly, at the r. extremity of the chain are the *Puy de Louchadière* (in Auvergnat patois *Le Chadeïro*—the foot-stool), an enormous crater, 148 mètr. deep, and the *Puy de la Nugère*.

[A pleasant road leads to (43 k.) Mont Dore (see later) by—  
15 k. *Fontfrède*, whence a road diverges to (2 k.) the *Lac d'Aydat*, on the N. side of which is the little island of *S. Sidoine*. At the village of *Aydat* are some remains of a house of the Templars, and in the XII. c. church, which occupies the site of Avitatum, the villa of Sidonius Apollinaris, is a monument inscribed 'Hic sunt duo innocentes et ✠ S. Sidonius.' Returning to the lake and following its bank and then the course of the Veyre, we reach the village of *Ponteix* under the *Puy de Montredon* (875 mètr.). Hence it is 3 k. to *Cournol*, which had a curious covered avenue of druidical stones, now partly destroyed.]

[Another road (of 53 k.) to Mont Dore passes—  
19 k. *Pont des Eaux*, near the pretty *Cascade des Saliens*, on the Gigeole.

21 k. *Villejacques*, whence a road of 3 k. diverges S. to *Orcival*, with a very interesting church (of Notre Dame) of XI. c., of which the W. end touches the rock, and the apse overlooks the Sioulot. The octagonal XIII. c. tower has a stone spire. In the choir is a statue of the Virgin, attributed to S. Luke. To the W. of *Orcival* is a dolmen called by the natives *Le Tombeau de la Vierge*.

29 k. *Rochefort* (Hotel: *de la Couronne*), at the foot of the *Puy d'Ébert* (1,052 mètr.), and another volcanic height bearing the ruins of a château of the Dauphins d'Auvergne.

3 k. S. is *La Roche de Deveix*, or *Roche Branladoire*, a curious rocking-stone.]

<sup>1</sup> Poulett-Scrope, *Extinct Volcanoes of the Centre of France*.

[A line leads W. from Clermont to (46 k.) Thiers on the line from Moulins to S. Étienne (see ch. ii.), by—

6 k. *Aulnat*, with a church of xi. c.

13 k. *Pont du Château*, on the l. bank of the Allier, 1 k. N. of the station. One of the strongholds of the xii. c., it contains the (late xii. c.) church of *S. Martine* and the ruins of the *Château de Canillac*, which belonged to Jean de Beaufort, Marquis de Canillac, the lover of Marguerite de Valois.

16 k. *Vertaizon*. The church, of xiii. c., on a hill to the r., is surrounded by the remains of a xii. c. castle. 2 k. S. is *Chauriat*, with a curious xii. c. church, spoilt by alterations. 3 k. N. is *Beauregard l'Évêque*, with the remains of a château of the Bishops of Clermont, in which Massillon died in 1742, at the age of eighty, leaving all his fortune to the Hôtel-Dieu at Clermont.

‘Massillon, que sa vertu, son savoir, ses grands talents pour la chaire, avaient fait évêque de Clermont, parce qu’il en passait quelquefois, quoique rarement, quelque bon parmi le grand nombre des autres qu’on faisait évêques.’—*S. Simon*, ‘*Mémoires*.’

‘Dans l’une de nos promenades à Beauregard, maison de plaisance de l’évêché, nous eûmes le bonheur de voir le vénérable Massillon. L’accueil plein de bonté que nous fit ce vieillard illustre, la vive et tendre impression que firent sur moi sa vue et l’accent de sa voix, est un des plus doux souvenirs qui me restent de mon jeune âge.’—*Marmontel*, ‘*Mémoires*.’

[A branch line of 9 k. leads S. to *Billom* (Hotel: *des Voyageurs*), a curious old place amongst the hills, which deserved the name of town in the middle-ages, when it coined money and had a famous school, frequented by 2,000 scholars in the xiii. c. The church of *S. Cerneuf* (x. c. and xi. c., but almost rebuilt in xiii. c.) has an xi. c. crypt, the fine xiv. c. tomb of Gilles Aycelin, Archbishop of Narbonne and afterwards of Rouen, a romanesque grille, and a bénitier on engaged columns. The church of *S. Loup* is restored xv. c. The Jesuit College, founded 1535 by Cardinal Duprat, is now the *Petit Séminaire*; its xv. c. chapel contains a xiii. c. reliquary. The *Beffroi*, on a fortified tower, is xvi. c. and xvii. c. A number of ancient castles crown the surrounding hills; that of *Roche* (5 k. S.) has a roman-

esque chapel. A road leads from Billom to (51 k.) Ambert, by (3 k. l.) *l'Église Neuve près Billom*, of xi. c. and xiv. c., and, on a basaltic peak, the ruins of the *Château de Mauzun*, which belonged to the bishops of Clermont and was demolished by Massillon; (17 k.) *S. Dier*, with a fortified church of xi. c., which belonged to the abbey of La Chaise Dieu; (22 k.) *Ceilloux*, where the xvi. c. church belonged to a priory of the Chaise Dieu; (38 k.) *S. Amant-Roche-Savine*, with a fine gothic cross in its cemetery, and the great *Dolmen de Besseyre*.]

25 k. *Lézoux*. 6 k. N.W. is *Culhat*, with a curious romanesque church, and a remarkably fine (xii. c.) *lanterne des morts* in its cemetery.

[A hilly road leads by a number of châteaux, especially (r.) the *Château de Ravel* on an isolated hill, to (16 k.) *Courpière*, an ancient fortress with a romanesque church (2½ k. S.W. the ruined *Château de Courte-Serre*; 3½ k. N.E. the ruined *Château de la Barge*); (22 k.) *Sauviat*, with a gothic church and ruined castle; (31 k.) *Le Moulin Giroux* (N. of which, on the Couzon, buried in woods, is *Vollore-Ville*, with a transition church and gothic cross of 1535). Hence the road ascends by the r. bank of the Dore (l. the *Château de Meymont*) to (37 k.) *Olliergues* (see ch. ii.) and (61 k.) *Ambert*, the old capital of the Livradois (see ch. ii.).]

[A line leads W. from Clermont through a volcanic district to Ussel, by—

6 k. Royat (see above). Leaving Royat, the line runs along a terrace in the hills, with a magnificent view over Clermont and its cathedral, with the delicate lines of the plain beyond melting into vaporous blue hills; then it crosses rocky gorges full of ancient chestnut and walnut trees, to—

21 k. *Volvic*. The station (no carriage) is 5½ k. distant from the town, which is situated in the depth of the valley, and reached by a walk across a rocky moor and then through beautiful walnut woods. We pass an immense bed of lava which has been quarried from the xiii. c. *Volvic* (Hotel: *des Carrières*—a clean country inn) has a very curious romanesque church, formerly fortified, and with very narrow aisles. The choir is coated externally with rude mosaics. S. Priest, bishop of Clermont,



was murdered here in 670. Ascending by the *Chemin de la Croix* to a calvaire and great statue of the Virgin, on the side of the *Puy de la Bannière*, a beautiful terrace walk through woods brings us (2 k.) to the *Château de Tournoël* (Comte de Chabrol) in a very striking position, with a splendid view over the plain of Riom. Several of the apartments—the *salle d'honneur*, the kitchen, the ladies' chamber, and the chapel, with its beautiful staircase of approach, are still very perfect, and many fine chimney-



CHÂTEAU DE TOURNOËL.

pieces remain, and portions of frescoed ceilings. A very curious vaulted *chemin de ronde* runs between the ramparts and the keep, defended by a drawbridge, and in which the garrison held out long after the rest of the castle was taken. Portions of the building date from the XII. c., but the decorated parts are mostly XVI. c.

A little N. of Volvic is the very pretty ravine of *Enval* or the *Bout du Monde*.

39 k. *Pontgibaud* (Hotel: *de la Poste*), a picturesque town on the side of the *Puy de Côme*, above the charming river *Sioule*, overlooked by a XIII. c. château, which belonged to the family of

La Fayette. 2 k. E. are the barbaric remains called *La Cité des Chazaloux*. An excursion may be made to (12 k.) the romanesque remains of the *Chartreuse de Port S. Marie*.

57 k. *Bourgeade*. About 12 k. N. is *Tortebesse*, with an old chapel of the knights of Malta turned into a church and a beautiful gothic cross, and 7 k. further *Herment*, with a romanesque XII. c. church on a basaltic rock, overlooked by a ruined castle.

65 k. S. *Sauves-Laqueuille*. A road (railway in progress) leads from Laqueuille by (8 k.) *Murat-le-Quaire*, with a ruined castle, to (15 k.) *Mont-Dore-les-Bains* (Hotels: *Bardet-Channonet*—best and most comfortable, with a pleasant villa annex in a garden with lovely views; *des Bains*; *de la Poste*; *de la Paix*; *Beausite*, and many others). The little town (1046 mètr. above the sea) of white and grey houses with slated roofs, is situated amongst rich pastures, covered with flowers in spring. The infant Dordogne flows through the village. As it is almost entirely composed of hotels, it is nearly deserted during nine months of the year; in summer the population is increased by 2,000. There is a miniature promenade, where a band plays on fine afternoons, and near its casino are some Roman columns and altars. The wide valley seems to be enclosed on all sides by mountains. On the E. it is overlooked by the Angle, on the W. by the Clergne; on the S. it is closed by the Pics de Sancy (1884 mètr.), which have more of a mountainous character, and are partially covered with snow till late in the season. The pretty little waterfall called La Grande Cascade is seen falling over a circle of black rocks high on the hill side to the l. The excursions are unimportant, but summer visitors may make short expeditions to (5 k.) *La Grande Scierie*, whence (30 min.) the *Cascade du Plat-à-Barbe*, whence (15 min.) the *Cascade de la Vernière*, whence (30 min.) the *Salon de Mirabeau*, a lawn surrounded by trees. Another excursion is that by (25 min.) *La Grande Cascade* and (4 k.) the *Cascade du Serpent*, to (7½ k.) the *Puy de Sancy* (1886 mètr.), the highest point in central France, from which there is a wide view over this singular and desolate region.

‘Figurez-vous un cône renversé, mais un cône de granit largement évasé, espèce de cuvette dont les bords étaient morcelés par des anfractuosités bizarres; ici des tables droites sans végétation, unies, bleuâtres, et sur lesquelles les rayons

solaires glissaient comme sur un miroir ; là des rochers entamés par des cassures, ridés par des ravins, d'où pendaient des quartiers de lave dont la chute était lentement préparée par les eaux pluviales, et souvent couronnés de quelques arbres rabougris que torturaient les vents ; puis, cà et là, des redans obscurs et frais d'où s'élevait un bouquet de châtaigniers hauts comme des cèdres, ou des grottes jaunâtres qui ouvraient une bouche noire et profonde, palissée de ronces, de fleurs, et garnie d'une langue de verdure. Au fond de cette coupe, peut-être l'ancien cratère d'un volcan, se trouvait un étang dont l'eau



AT MONT-DORE-LES-BAINS.

pure avait l'éclat du diamant. Autour de ce bassin profond bordé de granit, de saules, de glaïeuls, de frênes, et de mille plantes aromatiques alors en fleur, régnait une prairie verte comme un bowlingrin anglais ; son herbe fine et jolie était arrosée par les infiltrations qui ruisselaient entre les fentes des rochers, et engraisée par les dépouilles végétales que les orages entraînaient sans cesse des hautes cimes vers le fond. Irrégulièrement taillé en dents de loup comme le bas d'une robe, l'étang pouvait avoir trois arpents d'étendue ; selon les rapprochements des rochers et de l'eau, la prairie avait un arpent ou deux de largeur ; en quelques endroits, à peine restait-il assez de place

pour le passage des vaches. À une certaine hauteur, la végétation cessait. Le granit affectait dans les airs les formes les plus bizarres, et contractait ces teintes vaporeuses qui donnent, aux montagnes élevées de vagues ressemblances avec les nuages du ciel. Au doux aspect du vallon, ces rochers nus et pelés opposaient les sauvages et stériles images de la désolation, des éboulements à craindre, des formes si capricieuses que l'une de ces roches est nommée *le Capucin*, tant elle ressemble à un moine. Parfois ces aiguilles pointues, ces piles audacieuses, ces cavernes aériennes s'illuminaient tour à tour, suivant le cours du soleil ou les fantaisies de l'atmosphère, et prenaient les nuances de l'or, se teignaient de pourpre, devenaient d'un rose vif, ou ternes ou grises. Les hauteurs offraient un spectacle continu et changeant comme les reflets irisés de la gorge des pigeons. Souvent, entre deux lames de lave que vous eussiez dit séparées par un coup de hache, un beau rayon de lumière pénétrait, à l'aurore ou au coucher du soleil, jusqu'au fond de cette riante corbeille où se jouait dans les eaux du bassin, semblable à la raie d'or qui perce la fente d'un volet et traverse une chambre espagnole, soigneusement close pour la sieste. Quand le soleil planait au-dessus du vieux cratère, rempli d'eau par quelque révolution antédiluvienne, les flancs rocailleux s'échauffaient, l'ancien volcan s'allumait, et sa rapide chaleur réveillait les germes, fécondait la végétation, colorait les fleurs, et mûrissait les fruits de ce petit coin de terre ignoré.—Balzac, '*La Peau de Chagrin*.'

Three different routes lead from Mont Dore to (7 k.) *La Bourboule* (Hotels: *des Ambassadeurs*; *des Bains*; *Beauséjour*; *Bellevue*, etc.). A bathing place, 10 k. from the station of Laqueuille (omnibus, 3 fr. 50 c.; 2 fr. 50 c.; and 2 fr.). 2 k. distant is the curious isolated basaltic rock of *La Roche-Vendeix*.

A road of 25 k. connects Mont Dore with S. Nectaire, crossing a high pass in the hills. The ascent, through woods, is very pretty, then the scenery is bare, with a view, in the depth, of the *Lac Chambon*. At 20 k., the village of Murols is reached, at the foot of the hill which is crowned by its great ruined castle (see later).

[Beyond Laqueuille the carriage road from Clermont to (156 k.)



Aurillac, by which some of the most interesting parts of Cantal may be explored, is continued through a wild district by (55 k. from Clermont) *Tauves*, with a romanesque church; (74 k.) *La Nobre*, with four little lakes; (80 k.) *Bort*, on the Dordogne, at the foot of basaltic hills, the native place of Marmontel, with the fine waterfall called *Saut de la Saule* in its neighbourhood; (87 k.—1½ k. r.) *Madic*, with a xv. c. church and an old château of the family of Chabannes; (86 k.) *Saignes*, with remnants of an old castle (3 k. S.E. the fine ruined castle of *Chastel-Marlhac*); (91 k.) *Largnac* (3½ k. l. *Ydes*, with a curious xii. c. church of the Templars). At 109 k. the road reaches *Mauriac* (Hotel: *de l'Écu de France*), which has a noble parish church of *Notre Dame des Miracles*, built xii. c. on the site of a chapel founded by Théodéchilde, granddaughter of Clovis, and containing a statue of the Virgin, reputed miraculous, and venerated by immense pilgrimages every May 9. The magnificent Byzantine portal is very rich in sculpture and is flanked by heavy square towers; a third octagonal romanesque tower surmounts the cross. Some of the sculptured capitals of the interior are unusually quaint: the font is romanesque. Near the church are some remains of a cloister and other buildings of a Benedictine priory. At the entrance of the cemetery is a *lanterne des morts* of the xii. c. The *Collège*, where Marmontel began his studies, has a handsome corinthian portal. An xviii. c. *Obelisk* bears an inscription by him. At the hamlet of *Albos* are three menhirs, and at *Brageac* (4 k. S.W.) the ruins of a fortified abbey, founded by S. Till in the vii. c. The church, of xi. c. and xii. c., contains a curious Byzantine reliquary.

(A road leads E. through a very wild country from Mauriac to (81 k.) Besse (see p. 237) by (14 k.) *Moussages*, where the church has an xi. c. portal; in the neighbourhood are the ruined castles of *Grossaldet* and (xv. c.) *Valens*; (21 k.) *Trizac*, with five ruined castles in its neighbourhood; (41 k.) *Riom-ès-Montagnes*, with a remarkable romanesque church and the ruined castle of *Rignac* (whence an excursion of 5 k. may be made to the picturesquely-situated *Château d'Apchon* and its church, with a xii. c. tomb); and (57 k.) *Condat-en-Féniérs* (Hotel: *de la Poste*), near which is the ruined Cistercian *Abbaye de Féniérs*, founded xii. c., and only destroyed by fire in 1872.)

Soon after leaving Mauriac, the Aurillac road passes within 1 k. of the beautiful falls of the Auze called *Cascade de Salins*, and the xvi. c. *Château de Mazerolles*, and then (118 k.) *Drugeac*, with a ruined castle, gothic church, and fine cemetery cross; (123 k.) a road leading to (7 k.) the very curious fortified mediaeval village of *Salers*, surrounded by several distinct lines of walls, with a ruined castle, gothic church, hospital of 1552, many houses of xv. c. and xvi. c., and wild and savage surroundings, amongst which the *Château de la Gourdanie* and *Château de la Jarrige*, and the fine falls of the Maronne, near *S. Paul de Salers*, should be visited; (127 k.) *S. Martin Valmeroux*, with an old castle and a curious church of 1362 (excursion to the *Château de Nozières* and the (xv. c.) *Château de Branzac*); (132 k.) *S. Chamant*, after which the road passes the basaltic rocks called *Les Orgues de Loubejeac*, and leaves r. the road leading to *S. Cirgues de Malbert*, a most picturesque place with a romanesque church and an old bridge between rocks; (137 k.) *S. Cernin* with a xiii. c. church with beautiful xv. c. stalls (excursions to the well-preserved xiv. c. *Château d'Anjony*, in a striking situation on a rock above the Doire, retaining rooms with xv. c. furniture and a chapel with frescoes: and to ruined castles at *Bournazel*, *Cambon*, *Régnaud*, *Monteil*, *Marze*, and *Ourzeaux*); and (149 k.) *Naucelles*, with a xv. c. church containing a xii. c. reliquary, and a xii. c. signal-tower.]

87 k. *Eygurande*, where a branch line leads by (21 k.) *Le Port Dieu*, with ruins of a priory, to (48 k.) *Largnac*.

[For the line hence to Montluçon see p. 211.]

105 k. *Ussel* (Hotel: *du Dauphin; du Lion d'Or*), the ancient Uxellodunum. The church is xii. c. and xv. c. The site of the château, long inhabited by Marguerite de Valois, wife of Henri IV., is now occupied by the Halles. For the beautiful line hence to Brive see *South-Western France*, ch. iv.]

Leaving Clermont for the south, the line passes—  
448 k. (from Paris) *Le Cendre*.

[A road leads hence to (14 k. E.) Billom (see p. 225) by *Cournon*, with a fine xi. c. church, and (4 k.) *Pérignat-ès-Allier*,

with a church of XI. c. and XV. c., and passes 2 k. to r. of *S. Georges-ès-Allier*, with a church of XIII. c. and XIV. c., possessing a remarkably beautiful XIII. c. portal.]

453 k. *Les Martres-de-Veyre*.

[Hence a road leads down the valley of the Veyre by ( $2\frac{1}{2}$  k.) *Veyre* and the *Puy de Monton*, crowned by a colossal image of the Virgin; (8 k.) *S. Amant-Tallende*, with an old château restored; (10 k.) *S. Saturnin*, where the church has a central tower with its original spire, and a sacristy formed from part of the cloister of a Benedictine convent: at the corner of the cemetery is a romanesque chapel used as a dwelling. To the S. of Veyre are (5 k.) *La Sauvetat*, with a castle of XIV. c. and (7 k.) *Plauzat*, with a church of XI. c. (the crypt and square choir), XIV. c., and XV. c., and a restored château of XVII. c.]

456 k. *Vic-le-Comte*, has very small remains of the fortifications which made it one of the principal strongholds of Auvergne. The *Sainte Chapelle*—built in the beginning of the XVI. c. by John Stuart, Duke of Albany and Comte d'Auvergne, and Anne de la Tour his wife—is a very beautiful specimen of the transition from gothic to renaissance: its windows represent on r. scenes from the Passion; on l., from the Old Testament. The *Chapelle S. Jean* is XIII. c. or XIV. c.

3 k. S. is the picturesquely placed *Château de Buron*, built in the crater of an ancient volcano. Near this are some remains of the Cistercian abbey of *Bouchet*, founded XII. c. and destroyed at the Revolution.

[A road leads W. through a basaltic district by (39 k.) *Besse-en-Chandesse* (see p. 237), and (68 k.) *La Tour d'Auvergne*, cradle of that ancient family, with some small remains of its castle, to (76 k.) *Tauves*.]

463 k. *Coudes*.

1 k. N. is the fine XIII. c. tower of *Montpeyroux*.

[A road leads W. to (21 k.) S. Nectaire (carriage 25 fr.), a beautiful drive by *Perrier*, with the *Tour de Maurifolet*, reached by a staircase cut in the rock; and (10 k.) *Champeix* (Hotel: *du Lion d'Or*), very picturesquely built along the banks of the little river Couze de Chaudefour. Here are a romanesque church, ruined castle, and the dolmen called *La Pierre Fichade*. After



S. NECTAIRE.

leaving Champeix the road enters a succession of exquisite wooded gorges, which continue nearly as far as (19 k.) the bathing-place of *S. Nectaire-le-Bas* (Hotels: *Grand*; *Madeuf*), which has no attraction to offer beyond its mineral waters, which resemble those of Ems in their qualities. 2 k. further, most beautifully situated in a wooded rocky gorge, is *S. Nectaire-le-Haut* (Hotel: *Mont Cornadore*—most comfortable, clean, and



well managed ; a delightful summer retreat. Pension 13 fr.). The place was formerly called Mont Cornadore. The plateau of the wooded hill above the hotel is occupied by the magnificent church of XI. c. and XIII. c., which has two W. towers and an octagonal central tower. The interior is exceedingly majestic and beautiful in colour. Here, the nave has very narrow lofty side-aisles, and no clerestory. The columns round the apse have magnificent capitals, which retain their delicate ancient colouring.



CHURCH OF S. NECTAIRE.

The hill round the church is strewn with stone coffins, and has a XV. c. cross.

Many excursions may be pleasantly made from S. Nectaire. Ascending the rocky forest-clad gorge to the r., on reaching the top of the hill we come in sight of (5 k.) the great castle of *Murols*, grandly placed on a basaltic hill, high above the village of the name, and dating chiefly from XIV. c. and XV. c. ; a roman-  
esque chapel is XIII. c.

‘ Le château de Murols, ruine magnifique plantée sur un *dyke*

formidable, au pied d'un pic qui, de temps immémorial, porte le nom significatif de *Tartaret*, le château de Murols, labyrinthe colossal, est une des plus hautaines forteresses de la féodalité. Vue du dehors, c'est une masse prismatique qui se soude au rocher par une base homogène, c'est à dire hérissée de blocs bruts que des mains de géants semblaient avoir jetés au hasard dans la maçonnerie. Tout le reste est bâti en laves taillées, et ce qui reste des voûtes est en scories légères et solides. Ces belles ruines de l'Auvergne et du Velay sont les plus imposantes qu'il y ait au monde. Sombres et rougeâtres comme le dyke dont leurs matériaux sont sortis, elles ne font qu'un avec ces redoutables supports, et cette unité de couleur, jointe quelquefois à une similitude de formes, leur donne l'aspect d'une dimension invraisemblable. Jetées dans des paysages grandioses que hérissent en mille endroits des accidents analogues, et qui dominent des montagnes élevées, elles y tiennent une place qui étonne la vue et y dessinent des silhouettes terribles qui rendent plus frappantes les teintes fraîches et vaporeuses des herbages et des bouquets environnants.

'A l'intérieur, le château de Murols est d'une étendue et d'une complication fantastiques. Ce ne sont que passages hardis, franchissant des brèches de rochers à donner le vertige, petites et grandes salles, les unes gisant en parties sur les herbes des préaux, les autres, s'élevant dans les airs sans escaliers qui s'y rattachent; tourelles et poternes échelonnés en zigzag jusque sur la déclivité du monticule qui porte le dyke; portes richement fleuronées d'armoiries et à moitiés ensevelies dans les décombres; logis élégants de la renaissance cachés, avec leurs petites cours mystérieuses, dans les vastes flancs de l'édifice féodal; et tout cela brisé, disloqué, mais luxuriant de plantes sauvages aux aromes pénétrants, et dominant un pays qui trouve encore moyen d'être adorable de végétation, tout en restant bizarre de forme et âpre de caractère.'—*George Sand, 'Le Marquis de Villemer.'*

Murols is built with lava from the neighbouring extinct volcano of *Tartaret* (962 mèt.), near which is the *Lac Chambon* (880 mèt.), with wooded islets. The lake is formed by the Couze, which has pretty waterfalls in its earlier course.

Beyond Murols (carriage 20 fr.), passing the large village of

*Besse-en-Chandesse*, about 16 k. from Mont Cornadore (which has a church with an octagonal tower, and an ancient gate with a belfry) is (20 k.) the *Lac Pavin* (2,500 mèt. in circuit, 1,197 above the sea), of which absurdly exaggerated accounts are given in French guide-books. The carriage stops where a little stream foams down a miniature green valley on l., and on ascending the bank, we find ourselves on the edge of an extinct crater, filled by a still, clear oval, green lake, surrounded by luxuriant beechwoods, above which, on one side, appears the



CHÂTEAU DE MUROLS.

turfy eminence called *Puy de Montchal*. It is a pretty sylvan scene, but nothing more. In May and June the meadows are white with narcissus.

It is 25 k. from S. Nectaire to Mont Dore (see above) passing Murols.]

473 k. *Issoire* (Hotels : *de la Poste* ; *de France*), a town well known as *Icciodurum* in Roman times, which received Christianity in the III. c. from S. Austremoine, who was

martyred near this. Most of the town was destroyed by the Duc d'Alençon in 1577, but it retains its magnificent church of *S. Paul*, which resembles that of Notre Dame du Port at Clermont, except in having a square chapel at the chevet. This is a typical Auvergnat church, though much of the W. front, with its tower and octagonal lanthorn, is due to modern restorations, well carried out.

‘The apsidal aisle has four apses, each springing from a gabled face; this, with a peculiar mosaic ornament of dark stone on lighter building stone, gives great finish to the building. The patterns are geometrical, not architectural. From the central space at the east end, and between the two apsidal chapels, projects a square one. There is a crypt beneath the chancel, which comprehends the apsidal aisle and its radiating chapels, but gives the westernmost chapels a square plan.’—*J. L. Petit*.

There is a romanesque house at Issoire.

[A road leads E. from Issoire to (57 k.) Ambert (see ch. ii.), passing (12 k.) 1 k. S. of *Manglieu* (Magnuslocus), which has a fine church, with an xi. c. porch and choir and xv. c. nave, which belonged to a Benedictine abbey. A second road (of 52 k.) leads to Ambert by (5 k.) *Varennès*, at the foot of a volcanic hill occupied by the village of *Usson*, with a romanesque church, and remains of a castle once inhabited by Marguerite de Valois, first wife of Henri IV.; and (12 k.) *Sauxillanges*, with remains of a priory.]

[A road leads S.E. by (28 k.) *S. Germain l'Herm*, which has a xiii. c. church (6 k. N.W. are the picturesque ruins of the *Château de la Fayette*) to (51 k.) *La Chaise Dieu*. See later.]

[A road leads W. to (53 k.) *Mont Dore*, by (28 k.) *S. Nectaire le Haut*. See p. 234.]

The line passes near (r.) the basaltic heights of *Broc*, with a xiii. c. *Château* of the Dauphins d'Auvergne, to—  
482 k. *Le Breuil*.



There is an omnibus from Le Breuil to ( $2\frac{1}{2}$  k.) *S. Germain-Lembron* (3 k. N.W. of which is *Chalus*, with a romanesque church and ruined castle, and 3 k. further *Villeneuve*, with a fine renaissance château), then by the basaltic rock of *Montcelet*, with some remains of a castle of the Dauphins d'Auvergne, to (14 k.) *Ardes-sur-Couze*, with a XIV. c. church. This was the ancient capital of the duchy of Mercoeur. At 2 k., on a lofty peak (945 mètr.), is the *Château de Mercoeur*.

#### 498 k. *Arvant*.

[Here the railway from Clermont to Aurillac turns W.; a most beautiful (single) line through rocky forest gorges, following for some distance the windings of the rushing, sparkling Alagnon. The mountainous scenery resembles that of the finest parts of the Meuse.

'A un certain point de vue, le Cantal, qu'habitent les plus Celtes des Celtes, à en juger par leur physionomie, leur taille et la forme de leur tête, peut être considéré comme le centre de la contrée que les géologues Élie de Beaumont et Dufrénoy y ont qualifiée de "pôle de répulsion," car c'est là que les étrangers sont le moins nombreux. Par contre, le mouvement d'émigration y est très-considérable; en moyenne, 10,000 hommes quittent les villages du Cantal vers la fin de l'automne, pour aller gagner leur vie, soit dans les grandes villes par une profession sédentaire, soit dans les campagnes comme marchands nomades de bestiaux, de mules, de parapluies.'—*Élisée Reclus*.

5 k. (from Arvant) *Lempdes*, with a romanesque XI. c. church. The ruined castle of *Lestoint* is seen on the l., crowning an abrupt rock.

16 k. *Blesle*. 2 k. N.W. are the curious basaltic rocks called *Orgues de Blesle*. A quaint hermitage chapel crowns a lofty rock on the l., before reaching—

20 k. *Massiac*, an old fortified place at the meeting of the Agnolon and Alagnon. The line continues to follow the Alagnon, passing (r.) the fine ruined castle of *Aurouse*.

30 k. *Molompize*, has a church partly romanesque, and a ruined castle. Then a height on r. is crowned by the ruined castle of

*Charmensac.* L. is the castle of *Volclair*, then the church of *S. Mary le Cros*, where a curious reliquary formerly contained the relics of the patron saint. A natural stone seat near the village called *Chaise de S. Mary* is a point of pilgrimage to those ill of internal disorders.

39 k. *Ferrière-S. Mary.* The castle of *Peyrusse* is seen, then the great castle of *Merdogne* crowns a precipitous rock on r.

49 k. *Neussargues.* On the road to *S. Flour* is *Pierrepont*, with a transition church and xiv. c. castle.



S. FLOUR FROM THE NORTH.

[Here a line diverges S., ascending into a wild plateau of open country to—

18 k. *S. Flour* (Hotel: *de la Poste*—a good country inn, which has one good room with a splendid view; horrors). *S. Flour* rose in the xi. c., on the basaltic plateau of *La Planèze* (885 mèt.), around a monastery founded on the site of the burial-place of the missionary *S. Florus*, who died in 370. It is said to be due to an order of the pope to two barons de Brezon, that they should thus expiate the crime of fratricide. The position is magnificent, the finest of any town in France. On three sides

the city is girt by high volcanic precipices, along the very edge of which the houses are ranged, following the windings of the rock. Behind rises the cathedral, which, poor in reality, is exceedingly imposing from a distance. A curious old bridge, with a chapel at the end of it, crosses the little river Andes in the ravine below. The finest view is to be obtained by turning a little away from the town on leaving the station, along the road to Garabit and the south. Seen from hence, S. Flour will recall Orvieto to Italian travellers.

Foot passengers may ascend through steep old winding



S. FLOUR FROM THE SOUTH.

streets (*Chemin de l'Abattoir*) to one of the old gates of the town. Carriages make a much longer ascent by a road which is skirted near the top by a range of pillared basaltic cliffs. The streets are not picturesque, but have a singularly old-world look. The hotel has been in the hands of the same family for four hundred years, and the landlady shows with pride the passage where her ancestor (*Rongier*) surprised the Protestants under *Merle*, as they were making a secret entrance from the cliffs behind, and thus saved the town; also the spot where the Protestants were beheaded and the drain by which their blood flowed away. The rugged *Place d'Armes* in front, has an old fountain and *xvi. c.* houses

with porticoes beneath. Beyond a grove of trees, like those of an English close, stands the *Cathedral*, built 1375—1466, on the site of the oratory of S. Florus, a heavy massive edifice, with two square towers at the W. end. The façade bears the device of the triple A, in reference to Arabia, the supposed country of S. Florus. The interior has five aisles, without triforium or transept. Here, till the Revolution, hung against a pillar the trumpet which was to have sounded the capture of the town (when the



BASALTIC CLIFFS, S. FLOUR.

Camisard trumpeter was hurled from the rocks), inscribed 'Tuba proditorum.' The Capitaine de Brisson, who threw him down, received from the town, as a reward, the right of occupying, with his wife, the two first stalls in the cathedral, when a commemorative service, called *Voeu de la Ville*, was annually held there. A neighbouring street—*Rue Sorel*—commemorates the visit of Charles VII. and the beautiful Agnes, when the unwelcome attentions of the king to the beautiful Marguerite Bégon, daughter of one of the principal citizens, obliged the latter to take refuge in a convent. The parish church of *S. Vincent* is XIV. c.



The great height of S. Flour makes its air most reviving in the summer, but the climate is terribly severe in winter, when snow lies for months undisturbed. The surrounding country has a wild beauty of its own, and is exceedingly interesting to botanists.

2 k. S.E. is the xvi. c. *Château de la Chaumette*. An excursion may be made (6 k. N.W.) to the finely situated ruins of the *Château du Rochain* with the falls of the Saillans. A carriage (10 fr.) should be taken to the extraordinary *Pont de Garabit*, the masterpiece of the famous Eiffel, and one of the most remarkable engineering feats of modern times—a cast-iron bridge 448 mètr. 30 c. in length, with a height of 122 mètr. 20 c.: a huge iron arch at an immense height connects the central piers. Seen from below, crossing the wild gorge of the Truyère, the supports and the aerial bridge itself look most alarming, but have been thoroughly tested. Terrible accidents occurred during the construction. In one case a young man slipped through a hole in the bridge, and fell with such violence that he cut through the plank bridge over the river beneath like a saw; only his leg was left hanging. A woman, washing on the river bank, was so terrified by his fall close to her, that she fell into the water, and was with difficulty rescued from drowning.

Further down the Truyère is a fine ruined castle near *Allenze*.]

(A road leads to (121 k.) Rodez (see *South-Western France*, ch. iv.), by (11 k.) *Les Ternes*, with an ancient church and xv. c. château; (33 k.) *Chaudesaigues* (Hotels: *du Midi*; *de Paris*) with very curious hot mineral springs in which visitors cook eggs, etc. The hot springs, used for the sick in summer, are employed effectually in winter—by canals of masonry under the ground floors—to heat the houses. The *Château du Couffour* is picturesque, the *Château de Montvallat* is of 1627;—(65 k.) *Laguiole*, beyond which the road passes to the l. of the striking and picturesque ruins of the Cistercian abbey of *Bonneval*, founded 1147; (89 k.) *Espalion* (Hotel: *de France*), with a xiii. c. bridge and ruined castle. The church of *S. Éloi* is remarkable for its belfry on a single wall over the chancel arch (1 k. S.E. the curious romanesque chapel of *S. Hilarion*); and (100 k.) *La Rotonde*, 1 k. W. of which is the most picturesque and extraordinary gorge of the Dourdou, called *Gour d'Enfer*, with

the convent and ancient church of S. Catherine—a wonderful scene for an artist. See *South-Western France*.)

Passengers must look out after leaving S. Flour for the passage of the extraordinary Pont de Garabit (see above).

The line now enters upon dreary upland plains which it crosses by S. Chély d'Apcher to the curious old town of Marjevols, which retains its three ancient gates, and so to the south. See *South-Western France*.]

[A road leads N. from Neussargues to (67 k.) Besse (see p. 237), through a wild basaltic country by (16 k.) the old fortified town of *Allanche*; (30 k.) *Marcenat*, with the ruined *Château d'Aubijoux*, and (36 k.) the ruined *Abbaye de Féniers* or *de la Vallée-honnête*, founded in 1173.]

58 k. *Murat* (Hotel: *Bouchy*—tolerable), at the base of the basaltic rock of *Bonnevie*, which bore a fortress, demolished in 1633. The church of *Notre Dame des Oliviers* is XVI. c.; the church of *S. Martin* is used as a corn exchange. In the neighbourhood is the ruined *Château de Cleylannes*, with a waterfall, and the *Château de Beccoire*, built by S. Louis, in 1258. 14 k. on the road from Murat to Besse is *S. Anastasie*, where, near the hamlet of *Bousquet*, is the exceedingly striking and picturesque *Roc de Cuze*, with a ruined hermitage and beautiful waterfall.

[A road leads S.E. to (24 k.) S. Flour, by (r.) the foot of a volcanic hill crowned by *Bredons*, with an interesting (restored) romanesque church, built in 1074; (8 k.) *Ussel*, with a XII. c. church, and the basaltic colonnades called *Pavés des Géants*; and (18 k.) *Roffiac*, with a gothic cross, and romanesque (XII. c.) church, once the chapel of the ruined château, of which a fine octagonal tower remains. A short distance N.E. of this is *Andelat*, with a château and the waterfall of *Basbarie*. At *Violard* is a chapel cut out of the rock.]

The line increases in forest and mountainous beauty to—

69 k. *Le Lioran*, a place with lovely scenery, and the best station for the ascent of (1 hr. 40 min.) *Plomb du Cantal*,

1,858 mètr. : 6 hrs. going and returning, *Le Puy Mary*, 1,787 mètr. : 3 hrs. going and returning, *Le Puy Griou*—none of them excursions of special interest.

‘D’après le témoignage des géologues, que la vue des assises terrestres et de leurs fossiles fait assister par la pensée à tous ces phénomènes de la planète, c’est pendant l’âge miocène qu’eût lieu la première éruption du Cantal, et le dernier paroxysme du volcan, le plus terrible, date du commencement de la période quaternaire. Alors la masse de basalte fluide qui s’épancha de la cheminée centrale sortit en telle abondance qu’elle recouvrit comme un manteau toutes les pentes du cône, s’amassa dans le creux jusqu’à 120 mètres d’épaisseur et s’étendit à 15 et 20 kilomètres de la base du volcan, sur les assises tertiaires, sur le terrain houiller et les roches cristallines : les anciennes forêts qui croissaient sur la montagne furent converties en une mince couche de charbon, que l’on étudie de nos jours avec soin pour y retrouver la flore de ces temps antiques. Le cône d’éruption dont la hauteur était probablement d’environ 2,500 mètres, se dressait à l’ouest du point culminant actuel, Le Plomb du Cantal, et tout autour, formant un amphithéâtre de plus de 30 kilomètres, s’élevait un rebord circulaire dont les ruines existent encore. Le Puy Mary, Le Puy Chavanoche, sont des témoins de cette enceinte démolie.’—*Élisée Reclus*.

The line continues through a mountain district to—

82 k. *Thiézac*, which has a fine gothic church, a cross of 1584 in the cemetery, and the ruined *Château de Murch*.

Above Thiézac the Cère forms the grand gorges of *Pas-de-Compaing*; and, below it, the magnificent gorge called *Pas-de-la-Cère*, where the torrent, descending from the wooded heights of Cantal, washes through a gulf with walls of basaltic rock, 140 mètr. high. The names of these chasms record the difficulty which travellers formerly experienced in passing these defiles.

86 k. *Vic-sur-Cère* (Hotels : *Vialette*; *Lamartre*), a bathing-place with a curious old fortified *Ville haute*. An excursion may be made to (S.E.) *Raulhac*, with a renaissance tower of 1577, and the still inhabited *Château de Croprières*, where the Duchess de

Fontanges, mistress of Louis XIV., was born; her portrait by *Mignard* is preserved here. In this neighbourhood are the old castles of *Mas*, *Messillac*, *Puech-Mourier*, and *Valduces*.

106 k. *Aurillac* (Hotels: *du Commerce*; *de Bordeaux*), on the *Jordanne*, the capital of the *Département de Cantal*, the ancient *Aureliacum*, where *S. Géraud* founded in 898 the famous abbey to which the first French pope—*S. Gerbier*—belonged. The monks of *Aurillac* had a priory and church at *Compostella*. A confraternity of *S. James* existed in the town, and all those who accomplished 'voyages d'adoration' took care, like the *hadjis* of *Mecca*, to carry their packet of exchange. The church of *S. Géraud*, formerly abbatial, is xvii. c., except the chapel of *S. Géraud* (l.), which is xvi. c. The church of *Notre-Dame-aux-Neiges* is xiii. c. and xiv. c. The *Chapelle d'Aureinques*, in the *Rue de Lacoste*, was built at the end of the xvi. c., on the spot where a noble of *Aurillac*, *Guinot de Veyre*, was killed in defending the town against the *Huguenots* in 1581; it is like a square vaulted gothic hall, with a central pillar. The *Chapelle du Collège* has a sculptured xvii. c. portal.

Overlooking the town, on the *Roc Castanet*, is the *Château de S. Étienne*, where *S. Géraud* was born, which was forcibly taken from the sovereign abbot of *Aurillac* by the citizens in 1233, when they pulled down the upper storey. The castle was burnt in 1868. The square keep is xi. c.; the adjoining building (used as a school) is xvi. c. In the *Rue Mercenague* is the old *Hôtel des Consuls* of xvi. c. The buildings of the *Collège* contain the *Musée*, with a small picture gallery. On the *Place Montyon* is a statue of *Pope Silvester II.* (*Gerbert d'Aurillac*) by *David d'Angers*.

'Les paysans d'Ytrac et de Crandelles, à l'ouest d'Aurillac, sont ceux qui se rendent en plus grand nombre de l'autre côté des Pyrénées; on dit qu'ils se distinguent des autres habitants de la haute Auvergne, non-seulement par leur costume presque catalan, mais aussi par la vivacité de la physionomie, l'éclat du langage et la richesse de l'imagination; leurs femmes et leurs filles ont quelque chose d'espagnol dans les traits, le vêtement et la parure.'—*Elisée Reclus*.]



[For the line from Aurillac to Figeac and Brive see *South-Western France*.]

[For the interesting road from Aurillac to Clermont see p. 231.]

Leaving Arvant, the ruined castle of *Bournoncle*, on a strange basaltic rock, and the castle of *la Roche*, are seen on l.; then, on r., *Beaumont*, with a feudal tower, and *Paulhac*, with a very fine xv. c. château, admirably situated.

508 k. *Brioude* (from Briva, a bridge), a very ancient town, which has been celebrated from the vi. c., on account of the famous sanctuary of S. Julien. In 303 the proconsul Crispinus had ordered the arrest of Julien, a Christian soldier. He escaped for a time by the aid of his captain Ferréol, who was also a Christian, but he was taken in the spot called Vincella and beheaded. Ferréol embraced the martyr's bleeding head, for which he was afterwards himself put to death at Vienne. It is said that the rocks by the side of the spring where the soldiers washed the head of the saint, were ever after tinged with blood. The body of Julien was carried to Briva by the shepherds Ilpisc and Arcons, who, becoming Christians themselves, were eventually buried by his side, but his head was taken to rest with Ferréol at Vienne. A noble Spanish lady having prayed by the grave of Julien that her husband, imprisoned at Trèves, might be proved innocent of the crimes of which he was accused, believed that his acquittal was due to the prayers of the saint, and, in gratitude, erected the first oratory here, and a shrine, which soon became so important that the Emperor Avitus, flying from Ricimer in 457, sought it as a refuge, though he was murdered and buried there. After this every century renewed its bene-

factions, till the XII. c. and XIII. c., when the whole *Church of S. Julien* was magnificently rebuilt. It has recently been much restored. The principal portal has ancient columns and capitals, supporting a sculptured cornice. The ancient wooden doors are covered with leather. In the external walls a mosaic decoration of coloured stones is largely used. The E. end was defended, like a fortress, by strong buttresses, battlements, and machicolations. The seal of the chapter represents four knights, armed and mounted on the same horse, which is said to commemorate a special guild formed for the protection of the sanctuary.

‘The central tower does not comprehend the aisles, but is square, surmounted by an octagon. The apse is circular, and has an aisle garnished with five apsidal chapels, each springing from a gabled front. The round arch prevails in this part. The main apse is beautifully ornamented with patterns in black and light-coloured stone. The chevron is used in some of the arches of the choir, and the shaft and torus prevail. The piers are lofty, of a square plan, with engaged columns. The triforium seems to have consisted originally of three plain round arches with a circle above. The vaulting of the nave is of early pointed character and ribbed. The aisles have the cross-vaulting, without ribs. The tower-arches are pointed. The main apse has a plain semi-domical vault, but the eastern apsidal chapel has a ribbed roof; the others are plain, and the arches opening into them are pointed. There is a fine south portal with massive engaged columns.’—*J. L. Petit*.

The interior is a parallelogram, consisting of a central nave, very lofty, with lower, but wide, side aisles. Before the grille of the tower is a XIII. c. tomb. There are many remains of ancient fresco-painting.

‘Dans aucune église byzantine on ne verra des sculptures

plus fines, un travail plus soigné, une plus grande variété de motifs. Par leur composition, quelque fois même par leur exécution, plusieurs de ces chapiteaux se rapprochent tellement de l'antique, qu'ils justifient, jusqu'à un certain point, l'opinion de quelques antiquaires qui, dans l'édifice actuel, voudraient voir un monument du iv<sup>e</sup> siècle. Sur un des chapiteaux de la nef, par exemple, un génie ailé tenant un thyrses, et monté sur un tigre, paraît une copie de quelque bas-relief enlevé à un temple de Bacchus. Plus loin, des griffons, buvant dans une coupe, rappellent un grand nombre de sculptures romaines. Toute fois, lorsqu'on examine attentivement ces imitations, la fantaisie byzantine, son caprice bizarre se revèlent bientôt dans les additions qui surchargent le type original. C'est ainsi que les tigres antiques, qui ont inspiré le sculpteur de Brioude, n'avaient pas certainement une langue qui, après bien des contorsions, forme la tige d'une palmette.'—*Mérimée*, 'Notes d'un Voyage en Auvergne.'

Brioude had formerly seven other churches, and the fame of its sanctuary attracted the foundation of numerous convents, as well as of the hermitages which have left a name to *Le Territoire des Reclus*.

'Le chapitre de S. Julien présidait, par son député, toutes les assemblées urbaines, passait la revue des troupes et des armes, faisait battre monnaie, exerçait les droits de grande et de petite voirie, de main-morte, de prélation, d'appau, de fisc, de *committimus*, d'assistance aux états généraux du royaume, et ne relevait que du roi, malgré les divers apanages concédés aux ducs et aux princes de sang eux-mêmes.'—*Mandet*, 'Hist. du Velay.'

[At 4 k. S. is *Vieille Brioude*, with a XII. c. church and a bridge between two rocks at the end of an ancient lake.]

[Brioude is the nearest point from which to visit (39 k. by an uninteresting road) the curious and important monastery of *La Chaise Dieu* (Hotel: *du Nord*—very humble) in a bleak and

dreary situation, with a dirty village where much black and white lace is manufactured.

On a plateau rise, like a fortress, the battlemented and crenelated buildings of the vast abbey of *Casa Dei*, founded by S. Robert, treasurer of S. Julien de Brioude, in 1036, and which, early in the xiv. c., had as its abbot Roger du Beaufort, who, successively bishop of Arras, archbishop of Rouen, and cardinal archbishop of Sens, reigned as Pope Clement VI. from 1342-52, and from the first year of his election began the rebuilding of the church of the Chaise Dieu on a magnificent scale.

The abbey, which had three hundred monks in the middle-ages, continued to be the most important monastery of Auvergne and the richest in France till the Revolution. Cardinals Mazarin, Richelieu, d'Armagnac, and de Rohan were amongst its abbots. The last, being Grand Almoner of France, was banished here after his trial for the *affaire du Collier*.

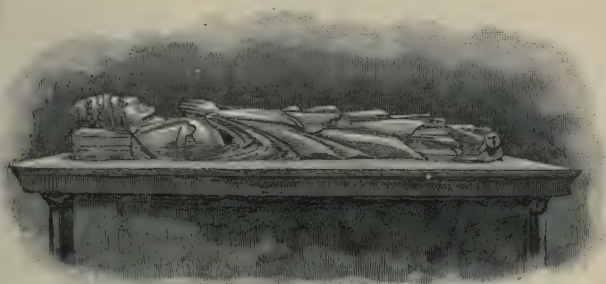
Near the E. end of the church, the enormous machicolated *Tour de Clément VI.* bears the name of its founder, and is the fortress in which the monks and all the inhabitants of the town escaped slaughter by the lieutenant of the Baron des Adrets, when the abbey was sacked by the Protestants in 1564. Only two galleries remain of the ruined cloister of xiv. c. and xv. c.; that on the N. is due to the Abbé André de Chanac, whose arms are carved upon a pendentive, and who finished the fortifications of the monastery.

The abbey church, now the parish church of the town, was rebuilt in xiv. c. and xv. c. at the expense of Pope Clement VI. and his nephew Gregory XI. (Pierre-Roger de Beaufort). A wide staircase,<sup>1</sup> at the foot of which is the *pierre des expositions*, on which the monks were laid for twenty-four hours after death, leads to a central portal, flanked by massive towers, which once had spires, destroyed in the Revolution. The interior is a triple nave ending in five five-sided apses. The nave is divided by a heavy roodloft of xvii. c., and the effect of the inner portion, which forms the choir, with its wide-spreading roof, magnificently sculptured stalls, and the seventeen splendid tapestries (1501-18)

<sup>1</sup> In a chapel near the foot of the staircase was buried Jean Soanen, bishop of Senez, exiled hither by the Council of Embrun for resisting the bull *Unigenitus*.



which give it richness, and colour, is majestic, imposing, and picturesque in the extreme. In the centre is the tomb of Clement VI. (Pierre-Roger de Beaufort, of the noble house of Maumont in the Limousin), the voluptuous pope under whom the court of Avignon became one of the gayest in Christendom, whose life was a constant succession of ecclesiastical pomps, gorgeous receptions, and luxurious banquets, who loved too well the society of beautiful women, and allowed the Comtesse de Turenne the sale of preferments and benefices, who was lashed by the verses of Petrarch, and who showered such benefits upon his family, that of the five cardinals who accompanied his corpse



TOMB OF CLEMENT VI., LA CHAISE DIEU.

hither from Avignon, one was his brother, three his nephews, and the fifth his cousin.

‘Es meritis post vincla crucem, post verbera ferrum,  
Supplicium breve ! quin potius sine fine dolores  
Carceris aeterni, vel si quid tristius usquam est.  
Serve infide, fugax, Dominoque ingrato benigno.’

*Petrarch, ‘Ecl. VI.’*

The whole tomb, except the statue and sarcophagus, was destroyed by the Calvinists, who used the skull of the pope as a wine cup. The tombs of Abbot Guillaume, nephew of Clement VI., of the Comtes de Beaufort, descendants of his

brothers, of his uncle Nicolas, Archbishop of Rouen, and of the abbot André de Chanac and many other abbots and bishops, are destroyed. The tomb of Abbot Réginald de Montclar, adorned with statuettes, is used as an armoire. Against the choir wall are two other much mutilated tombs—one of which, surrounded by weeping figures, *Le Tombeau d'Édith*, is shown as that of a queen of England. In the l. aisle of the choir is a curious *Danse Macabre*<sup>1</sup> (or Dance of Death) in fresco.]

### 519 k. *Frugières-le-Pin*.

2½ k. W. is the XII. c. church of *Lavaudieu*, which has a XII. c. cloister, with an upper storey in wood, the remnant of a Benedictine nunnery. The line leaves on r. the XIII. c. ruined *Château de Domeyrat*.

### 533 k. *S. Georges-d'Aurac*. The town is 4 k. S.E.

3 k. E. is the *Château de Chavagnac*, in which Lafayette was born. 9 k. W. of the station is *la Voûte-Chilhac*, with a XV. c. church, built by Jean de Bourbon, bishop of Puy, for a Cluniac priory.

[A branch-line leads E. to S. Étienne and Lyon. There is no beauty until we reach the gorges of the Borne, before arriving at—

52 k. *Le Puy* (Hotels: *des Ambassadeurs*—tolerable; *de l'Europe*—indifferent), the capital of the Département de la Haute-Loire, the hill of hills, the holy town of the middle-ages, and the most picturesque and curious city in France, equally surprising in its situation, its buildings, and its surroundings.

‘Rien ne peut donner l'idée de la beauté pittoresque de ce bassin de Puy, et je ne connais point de site dont le caractère soit plus difficile à décrire. Ce n'est pas la Suisse, c'est moins terrible; ce n'est pas l'Italie, c'est plus beau; c'est la France centrale avec tous ses Vésuves éteints et revêtus d'une splendide végétation; ce n'est pourtant ni Auvergne, ni le Limousin. . . . Non, tout est cime et ravin, et la culture ne peut s'emparer que de profondeurs réservées et de versants rapides. Elle s'en

<sup>1</sup> The name is a corruption of the Arabic word *magbarah*, cemetery.

empare, elle se glisse partout, jetant ses frais tapis de verdure, de céréales et de légumineuses avides de la cendre fertilisée des volcans, jusque dans les interstices des coulées de lave qui la rayent dans tous les sens.

‘L’horizon est grandiose. Ce sont d’abord les Cévennes. Dans un lointain brumeux on distingue le Mézenc avec ses longues pentes et ses brusques coupures derrière lesquelles se dresse le Gerbier des Joncs, cône volcanique qui rappelle



AT LE PUY—‘LE TEMPLE DE DIANE.’

le Soracte, mais qui, partant d’une base imposante, fait un plus grand effet. D’autres montagnes de formes variées, les unes imitant dans leurs formes hémisphériques les ballons Vosgiens, les autres plantées en murailles droites, cà et là vigoureusement ébréchées, circonscrivent un espace de ciel aussi vaste que celui de la campagne de Rome, mais profondément creusé en coupe, comme si tous les volcans qui ont labouré cette région eussent été contenus dans un cratère commun, d’une dimension fabuleuse.

‘Au-dessous de cette magnétique ceinture, les détails du

tableau se dessinent parfois avec une prodigieuse netteté. On distingue une seconde, une troisième, et par endroits, une quatrième enceinte de montagnes également variées de formes, s'abaissant par degrés vers le niveau central des trois rivières qui sillonnent ce que l'on peut appeler la plaine; mais cette plaine n'a qu'une apparence relative: il n'est pas un point de sol qui n'ait été soulevé, tordu ou crevassé par les convulsions géologiques.'—*George Sand, 'Le Marquis de Villemer.'*

Legend tells that Le Puy had its origin in a chapel of the Virgin founded upon Mount Aris in the earliest ages of Christianity. But historians consider that Adidon, as the town was formerly called, originated in a Gaulish *oppidum*. In the x. c. it was called Anicium or Podium Anicii, whence Le Puy. The town is overlooked by the strange volcanic *Rocher de Corneille*, crowned by a colossal and frightful statue of *Notre Dame de France*, formed by the melting of 213 cannon taken at Sebastopol, though it looks from a distance as if made of terra cotta. Visitors can ascend into its head and walk in the gallery round its crown. Near this, on the same rocky platform, is a bronze statue (by Bonnassieux) of Mgr. de Morlhon (1862), the bishop of Puy under whom the figure of the Virgin was erected.

The *Rue des Tables* (so called from the tables which the brothers of the hospital let out to salesmen that they might display their wares to the pilgrims), leads from the lower town—la cité consulaire—to the upper town—la cité du seigneur évêque. We pass a beautiful old gothic fountain, with a very richly sculptured xvi. c. house behind it. Then a long and imposing staircase leads to and enters the wonderful *Cathedral of Notre Dame* by a porch pierced under the triple nave by three arches, above which are the windows lighting the W. end of the nave, and three gables—the central corresponding with the principal roof, the others with open arcades. The alternations of yellow and white stone add to the effect of the dark arches, as also the vast staircase, with the figures ascending and descending, the relic vendors with their booths against the pillars, and the venerable lace-making beggars who abound at Le Puy. On the l. is the beautiful chapel of the Hôtel Dieu.

'La cathédrale est d'un admirable style roman, de la même



couleur que le rocher, un peu égayée seulement par des mosaïques blanches et bleues au fronton. Elle est placée en manière à paraître colossale, car on arrive par une montagne de degrés à donner le vertige. L'intérieur est sublime de force élégante et d'obscurité religieuse. Jamais je n'ai compris et pour ainsi dire senti la terreur du moyen-âge comme sous ces piliers noirs et nus, sous ces coupoles chargées d'orage.'—*George Sand, 'Le Marquis de Villemer.'*

On the threshold of the central arch, the steps bear the distich—

'Ni caveas crimen, caveas contingere limen,  
Nam regina poli vult sine sorde coli.'

And, in effect, this famous shrine was successfully defended against the Protestants under the Baron des Adrets, by the people of Auvergne rising *en masse*. The great staircase is continued under two bays of the principal nave, and then, instead of proceeding, as formerly, towards the very foot of the altar, after passing through a beautiful arch supported by porphyry pillars, where a miraculous stone beneath an image of the Virgin is much resorted to by the faithful, it diverges to the r. and l., the stairs on the l. leading to the cloister, whilst by those on the r. we attain the level of the church. Two lateral portals open directly on the church by the transept. That near the E. wall of the N. transept has a wide slightly pointed gothic arch, over a relief the Last Supper and saints: the iron work of the door is magnificent. The S. entrance, or *Porte du fort*, has a splendid gothic porch, with very peculiar arches supporting an upper chamber. Close by is the pretty renaissance entrance to the *Évêché*. Externally, the walls of the nave are decorated by bands of black volcanic breccia and white sandstone. Behind the choir rises the noble x1. c. romanesque belfry, in seven storeys, gabled at the top, and surmounted by a small four-sided stone spire.

The interior has a nave of six bays, a square choir, and transepts ending in apses. The central nave has octagonal cupolas over each bay, those of the first four bays being more ornamental than the others, and the arches more pointed. The central cupola forms the lanthorn. There is, of course, no visible

W. entrance. The choir and transepts have cradle vaulting. The transepts are divided equally into two storeys, the pillars of the lower having capitals of indescribable richness.

At the W. end is some vile polychrome and modern glass,



ASCENT TO CATHEDRAL, LE PUY.

but the effects of light and colour in most of the building are splendid, the deepest shadows gathering under the lower romanesque arches beneath the cupola. The numerous hanging lamps and the splendid wrought-iron grilles add to the colour. There are considerable remains of XII. c. and XIII. c. frescoes. Near the S. door an ancient tomb is used to support the modern

effigy of Bishop Brecon. At the entrance of the choir are inscribed the names of those priests who died for their faith near Le Puy during the Revolution—'Noluerunt infringere legem Dei sanctam, et trucidati sunt.' In the treasury is a MS. (ix. c.) Bible of Théodulfe.

On the N. is the *Cloister*, most picturesque from its glorious capitals and its external walls inlaid with colour. Viollet le Duc says that one of its galleries is the earliest type (viii. c. or ix. c.) known of a cathedral cloister. Adjoining the cloister is a heavy machicolated fortress-like building of the xiii. c., containing the chapter-library, now transformed into a chapel, containing mural paintings of the xv. c. illustrative of the liberal arts.

To the N.E. of the cathedral, opposite the tower, is the *Baptistery of S. Jean*, of the iv. c., built from remains of a Roman building.

The *Place du Breuil* has a handsome fountain—*La Fontaine Crozatier*—of 1864. In the adjoining *Jardin Public* is the *Musée*, which, besides the usual collections, contains the famous prehistoric skulls of the Denise, and a wonderful collection of the lace manufactured at different dates by the Ponots or Podots, as the inhabitants of Puy are named.

'Aussitôt que l'enfant commence à babiller, on lui met une grosse pelote de corne sur les genoux et des paquets de bobines entre les doigts. A l'âge de quinze ou seize ans, elle sait faire les plus merveilleux ouvrages, ou elle est réputée idiote et indigne du pain qu'elle mange.'—*George Sand, 'Le Marquis de Villemer.'*

On the N.W. of the town (passing a statue of Lafayette, and a fine tower of bold machicolations) is the old xiv. c. Dominican church of *S. Laurent*, near the river Borne, containing (chapel l. of high altar), under a gothic canopy, the tomb (erected over the entrails) of *Du Guesclin*, with his statue, and the inscription:—'Ci gist tresnoble home et vaillant messire Bertrand Claikin, conte de Longueville, jadis connestable de France, qui trespassa l'an mil cccxxx, le xviii jour de jul.'

Du Guesclin died beneath the walls of Châteauneuf-Randon. By his will he had desired to be buried with his ancestors in the Dominican church at Dinan, and thither his

funeral procession set out, his body lying in state, and funeral services being performed as for a king in all the principal towns he passed through. At Puy he was embalmed, and his entrails buried in the Dominican church. Then a message came from Charles VI., which ordered his body to be brought to S. Denis, for burial with the kings. The head of the knight here is full of quaint character. He is shown as his contemporaries describe him—'Il était petit, avait les épaules longues, le corps trapu, la tête énorme, le visage assez laid, les bras longs, et les mains courtes.'

The inner porch and a gothic tabernacle of stone are very richly decorated. The fine tomb of Bishop Bernard de Montaign, 1245, was destroyed by the Protestants.

Close to the town, on the N., rises the wonderful volcanic peak—'flamme refroidie et pétrifiée dans sa cheminée volcanique'—which is crowned by the church of *S. Michel d'Aiguille*. This is truly 'le roc étonnant de S. Michel,' as the author of *De Mundi Mirabilibus* calls it. A romanesque portal (opened by the people of the house close by, 50 c.) gives access to the 249 steps, which lead to the outer platform of the church; whence 22 more steps lead into the building itself. They were formerly ascended on knees. The church at the top was built 962-84, by Bishop Godescalc. The entrance is of great beauty and richness, encircled by a band of colour, with two mermaids on the lintel. Internally, the chapel is almost an oval, cut square at the E. end, and with a point at right angles for the portal. The sanctuary is surmounted by a four-sided cupola. The rest forms a circular side aisle with low cradle vaulting, surrounding a kind of central nave. The rich capitals of the pillars show the Carlovingian period, but the sanctuary is earlier. The tower is a simplified copy of that of the cathedral, the lower part contemporary with the church, the upper perhaps added in the XII. c.

Near the base of the rock is an octagonal chapel of the XII. c., known as the *Temple de Diane*.

1 k. W. of Puy is the village of *Espaly*, grouped around two very curious basaltic rocks above the Borne. The larger is crowned by ruins of a XIII. c. château of the bishops of Puy.

<sup>1</sup> Mandet, *Monuments Hist. de Velay*.



It was here that Charles VII. (called at first 'le Roi de Bourges') heard of his father's death, and that the xv. c. historians describe him as living *chichement*, surrounded by a few faithful retainers. Considerable Roman remains have been found. At the foot of the lava rocks flows *Le Riou Pezoulliou*, in which many of the commoner precious stones may be found in stormy weather.

'Dans cette montagne, l'une des plus fameuses pour les paléontologistes, M. Aymard a découvert en abondance, sous



LE PUY, FROM ESPALY.

les scories et les cendres, les ossements d'animaux vivant à l'époque où flambaient les volcans de la contrée : mammouths paléothériums, rhinocéros, tapirs et autres grands mammifères habitaient alors le pays. Les hommes étaient déjà nés à cette époque, car les brèches de la montagne contenaient les restes non douteux d'au moins deux squelettes humains, et quoiqu'on ait longtemps contesté la valeur de ce fait comme témoignage en faveur de l'ancienneté des hommes, il a bien fallu finir par se rendre à l'évidence. Quant à la flore, elle semble avoir à peine changé ; les mêmes plantes croisaient sur les pentes et

dans les vallées, mais elles étaient broutées par des animaux différents de ceux qui vivent actuellement dans la contrée. Les basaltes d'Espaly renferment en quantités considérables des zircons, des grenats, et des saphirs.'—*Élisée Reclus*.

On the opposite side of the Borne are the basaltic rocks



CROSS OF ESPALY.

called *La Croix de la Paille*. One of the best views of Le Puy is that from the castellated rock of Espaly, and there is a picturesque cross in the village.

No one should fail to make an excursion to (5 k. N.W.) *Polignac*. The road passes close to the curious basaltic rocks with three stages of columns called *Les Orgues d'Espaly*. The village and romanesque church of *Polignac* are built at the

foot of a precipitous rock which bears the *Château de Polignac*, one of the finest feudal ruins in France, composed of a mass of buildings of different periods, surmounted by a machicolated xiv. c. keep, and a round tower of the xiii. c. Before the fortress of the middle-ages, a Gallo-Roman building occupied the site ; to the Gauls also is attributed the excavation of "L'Abime"—a well, 83 feet deep, fed by a fountain of running water.



CHURCH OF POLIGNAC.

In former days the lords of Polignac were constantly at war with the citizens of Puy, and the country people, influenced by old traditions, regarded them with terror. The castle was the cradle of the long-famous family of Polignac, twice fatal to the house of Bourbon, of whom the most remarkable members have been the learned Melchior, Cardinal Archbishop of Auch (*ob.* 1741) ; his great nephew Jules, Duc de Polignac, husband of the great friend of Marie Antoinette, under whose prodigality the family derived a million from the state ; and Jules, Prince de

Polignac, son of the last-named, the friend and prime minister of Charles X., and the cause of the Revolution which precipitated his fall.

'Ce manoir de Polignac se présente de loin comme une ville de géant, sur une roche d'enfer. C'est la plus forte citadelle du moyen âge dans ce pays ; c'était le nid de cette terrible race de vantours sous les ravages desquels tremblaient le Velay, le Forez et l'Auvergne. Les anciens seigneurs de Polignac ont laissé partout, dans ces provinces, des souvenirs et des traditions dignes des légendes de l'ogre et de Barbe-Bleue. Ces tyrans féodaux détraquaient les passants, pillaient les églises, massacraient les moines, enlevaient les femmes, mettaient le feu aux villages, et cela de père en fils pendant des siècles. . . . Leur village était inexpugnable. Le rocher est taillé à pic à tous les côtés. Le village est groupé au-dessous, porté par la colline qui soutient le bloc de lave. . . . Les Polignac ont la prétention de descendre d'Apollon ou de ses prêtres en droite ligne, et la tradition consacre ici l'existence d'un temple de ce dieu.'—*George Sand, 'Le Marquis de Villemer.'*

At *Estreys*, in this neighbourhood, are the gorge of the Borne and a pretty waterfall.

[20 k. from Le Puy, on the road to Aubenas, is *Le Monastier* (omnibus, 1 fr. 60 c. Hotel: *Issartel*), an ancient town once fortified, which takes its name from a Benedictine abbey founded in the v. c. The abbey church, now parochial (rebuilt 961, repaired x1. c.) has an ancient romanesque façade. The tower is octagonal, with a spire. In the bare and gloomy interior, the nave has very narrow side-aisles: the heavy choir is xv. c. One of the choir chapels (S. Veronica) is rich renaissance of 1543, and was built by Antoine de Senectaire as a burial-place for his family. At the end of the S. aisle is a very ancient tomb, supposed to be that of S. Fortunat, patron of Monastier. A curious wooden bust of S. Théofred, coated with silver, is x. c.

The ascent of *Le Mézenc*,—'La cime argentée de Mézenc,' as George Sand calls it,—occupying about four hours, may be made from Monastier. One may descend to (3 hrs.) *Fay le Froid*, or by (2 hrs.) the ruins of the *Chartreuse de Bonnefoy*



to (3 hrs.) *Le Béage*, where the humble *Auberge Bourdelin* may be used as a centre for excursions in this mountain district. At 1 hr. 20 min. from Béage is the *Lac d'Issarlès*, whence it is 4 hrs. to Monastier. The ascent of the *Gerbier des Joncs* from Le Béage ( $3\frac{1}{2}$  hrs., descent 3 hrs.) will give a much finer view than that from Le Mézenc. At the *Ferme de la Loire*, where the final ascent begins, is the true *Source of the Loire* (Latin Liger), which falls into the sea after a course of 220 leagues, in which it swallows up 112 rivers, and gives its name to six departments of France—Haute-Loire, Saône et Loire, Loire, Indre-et-Loire, Maine-et-Loire, and Loire-Inférieure. It first becomes navigable for boats at Roanne, in the department of Loire.]

[It is 50 k. from Le Puy to La Chaise Dieu by (21 k.) *S. Paulien*, which occupies the site of Revesion, the capital of the Vellaves, and possesses a number of caves, formerly inhabited, and an interesting church of the xi. c., with a spire of xiv. c., and fortified towers and chapels. Those who visit the Chaise Dieu may rejoin the railway at Brioude.

2 k. S.W. of S. Paulien is the *Château de la Roche Lambert* curiously placed in a niche cut out of a basaltic precipice, where a castle has existed since 1164, when a deed was signed by the knight Pierre de Rupe Lamberta. The château (which is never shown) is much dilapidated, but contains some curious painted chambers. George Sand makes it the residence of her hero Jean de la Roche.

'C'est un nid que le château de la Roche, un vrai nid de troglodytes, d'autant plus que tout le flanc du rocher dont nous occupons le plus grand enfoncement est grossièrement creusé de grottes et de chambres irrégulières, que la tradition attribue aux *anciens hommes sauvages* (c'est le mot très juste dont se servent nos paysans), et que les antiquaires n'hésitent pas à classer parmi ces demeures des peuples primitifs que l'on rencontre à chaque pas sur certaines parties du sol de la France.

'Le petit manoir est, quant à l'extérieur, un vrai bijou d'architecture, assez large, mais si peu profond que la distribution en est fort incommode. Tout bâti en laves fauves du pays, il ne ressemble pas mal, vu de l'autre côté du ravin, à un ouvrage

découpé en liège, surtout à cause de son peu d'épaisseur, qui le rend invraisemblable. A droit et à gauche le rocher revient le saisir de si près, qu'il n'y a, faut d'espace aplani, ni cour, ni jardin, ni dépendances adjacentes. Les caves et les celliers sont installés dans les grottes celtiques dont j'ai parlé. Les écuries, les remises et la ferme sont une série de maisonnettes échelonnées sur les étages naturels du ravin, à quelque distance du manoir.'—*George Sand.*]

[A road leads E. from Le Puy to Yssingaux, by (16 k.) *S. Hostien*, then passes 1 k. from the ruined castle of *S. Étienne-Lardeyrol*. At 19 k. it reaches the plateau of *Le Pertuis*, whence there is a wide view to Le Puy and of the basaltic peaks of Velay. Then the road passes l. of *Bessamorel*, which has a ruined commanderie of the knights of Malta. *Yssingaux* (27 k. Hotel: *des Voyageurs*), dating from Roman times, has a ruined xv. c. castle. Close to the S. entrance of the town are the fortified house of *Choumouroux* (xiv. c.) and the *Château de Treslemont*. The gorges near this are too shallow for much beauty or picturesqueness. The inhabitants—Vélaves—have only recently become civilised; but they are now rapidly losing their ancient characteristics. Till lately a man of the plateaux never entered a cabaret without having his 'coutelière' in his hand, which he struck into the table with the defiance 'Qui en veut?'

5 k. S.W. of Yssingaux, near the double volcanic peak to which the peasants give the quaint name of *Tetons de l'Abbesse*, is the Abbey of *Bellecombe*, ruined at the Revolution. Not far from this is the castle of *Bonas* of the xii. c. To the N.E., 2 k. from Grazac, are the striking ruins of the castle of *Vertamise*, and near this, in the direction of Retournac, the castle of *Mercuret*, inhabited early in xi. c. More to the S. (7 k. from Yssingaux) is the castle of *Glavenas*. 18 k. from Yssingaux, on the Vienne road, is *Montfaucon*, where the castle was destroyed by the Calvinists in 1585. To the N. of this are the castles of *Dunières la Roue* and *Dunières Joyeuse*, the latter very picturesque and striking in its rocky position. Some parts of the church of *Dunières* date from the xi. c. The church of *Riotord* (30 k. from Yssingaux) has a romanesque cupola at the cross, supporting a tower. In a wild gorge 6 k. S. of Riotord

is the ruined Abbey of *Notre Dame de Clavas*, founded 1230. On the way from Yssingeaux to (15 k.) *Tence* (Hotel: *des Trois Rois*) is the *Château de Pélissac*. Near *Tence* are the *Château de Besset* and *Château de la Brosse*.

'C'est un pays dur et riant à la fois, mais où l'apréte domine et où le sourire se fait prier. Le climat est rude, très-froid en hiver, très-chaud en été. La vigne murit mal et donne un vin très-âcre, dont, comme dans tous les pays de mauvais vin, les habitants font excès. Les sommets des Cévennes sont souvent chargés des vapeurs glaciales, et quand le vent les balaye, la pluie se rabat sur les bassins.'—*George Sand*, '*Le Marquis de Villemer*.'

[For the line from Puy to S. Étienne see chap. ii.]

539 k. *Langeac* (Hotel: *Lombardin*), picturesquely situated at the foot of a hill crowned by a cross. The church is xv. c., with a hexagonal tower.

It is 48 k. to S. Flour (see p. 240) by the wolf-infested *Forest of Le Margeride*.

The line follows the l. bank of the Allier to—

545 k. *Chanteuges*, which retains a fortified tower of the famous abbey founded in the x. c. by Claude, Seigneur de Chanteuges, whose monks, descending hence as from a castle, became some of the most formidable brigands of the xii. c., obliging the abbot Raymond, who lost all power over them, to fly to the Chaise Dieu and give up there his abbatial cross, after which Chanteuges became a priory dependent upon Chaise Dieu. The church was remodelled xvi. c. The *Chapelle de l'Abbé* was built in the beginning of the xvi. c. by Jean de Sénectaire, last abbot-regular of the Chaise Dieu.

At *Pébrac* (6 k. S.) are remains of a priory and a church with an xi. c. chapel.

The line follows the wild gorges of the Allier, between strange basaltic mountains, to—

563 k. *Monistrol d'Allier*.

On the road from hence to (74 k.) S. Flour, near (10 k.) *Saugues*, is the curious uninscribed monument (a canopy supported by columns) called *Le Tombeau du général anglais*.

The line passes through a constant succession of tunnels to—

594 k. *Jonchères*, overlooked by a ruined castle of the xv. c. A mediaeval bridge crosses the Allier.

606 k. *Langogne*.

[A road leads S.W. to (65 k.) Mende (see *South-Western France*, ch. viii.) over the dismal desolate plateau called *Le Palais du Roi*, where at 20 k. is *Châteauneuf-Randon*, surrendered by the English in 1380 after the siege in which the famous Du Guesclin was killed. A monument was erected to him in 1820.]

The line between Langogne and Villefort is a succession of bridges, tunnels, cuttings, and embankments: nature has been conquered, but by the utmost effort. The gorge of the Allier becomes deep and imposing before reaching—

525 k. *La Bastide*.

8 k. W., in the *Forest of Mercoire*, is the source of the Allier. The *Abbey of Mercoire*, founded 1200, and rebuilt in 1592, is now a farm.

635 k. *Prévenchères*. The romanesque church, with the magnificent lime-tree beside it, and the xii. c. château, are situated on the *Chassezac*, a feeder of the Ardèche. 5 k. N.W. is the curious romanesque church of *Puylaurant*.



646 k. *Villefort*. Near the church is a xiv. c. house : on a rock is the venerated chapel of *S. Loup*.

The ascent of the *Mont Lozère* may be made from Villefort. An interesting excursion may be taken to ( $8\frac{1}{2}$  hrs.) *Les Vans* (Hotel: *du Cheval Blanc*) by the wild and rocky, but richly-cultivated, district of *La Borne*, and (1 hr. 30 min.) the ruined castle of *La-Garde-Guérin*.

[A road leads N.W. from Villefort to (59 k.) Mende by (31 k.) the fine ruins of the *Château du Tourmel*; and (38 k.) *Bagnols-les-Bains* (Hotels: *des Bains*; *du Midi*), near the N. base of the *Pervenché*.]

The line passes through the rich coal district of *La Grand'Combe* before reaching—

693 k. *Alais*. See ch. ix.

742 k. *Nîmes*. See ch. ix.

## CHAPTER V.

IN THE JURA. DIJON TO DOLE, BESANÇON (BELFORT),  
SALINS, PONTARLIER, LONS-LE-SAUNIER, ST.  
CLAUDE, ETC.

THOSE who expect any grandeur of scenery will not find it in the Jura. The mountain district is limestone, which never produces striking outlines. Now and then we come across fine views of the Alps. The towns are not very picturesque, but the archaeologist will find a few objects of interest at Besançon, Baume, S. Claude, etc. The line from Paris to Belfort, *viâ* Dijon, passes—

347 k. (from Paris) *Auxonne* (Hotel: *Grand Cerf*—very tolerable). The population of this strongly-fortified town is half military. Its clean little streets are surrounded by grassy ramparts mounted with cannon, and washed on one side by the Saône, which gave the place its ancient name of Assonium. In the centre of the town is the *Cathedral of Notre Dame*, begun 1309 by Jeanne de France, wife of Eudes de Bourgogne, and finished, *c.* 1516, by the Duchess Marguerite de Flandre. In the centre is an octangular tower, with round tourelles at the angles, and a slender spire.

The magnificent W. porch has three deep arches, with figures of the prophets on detached columns, beneath

canopies of great delicacy. Of the two W. towers, one is unfinished. The interior consists of a triple nave, short transepts (which do not project beyond the aisles of the nave), and a choir with a hexagonal apse, and hexagonal



CATHEDRAL TOWER, AUXONNE.

chapels on either side. There is a fine brass lectern. The square on S. of the cathedral is adorned by a bronze statue (by Jouffroy) of Napoléon I., who passed a year in garrison at Auxonne and was nearly drowned here whilst bathing in the Saône. The renaissance château has five towers.

The railway passes l. the *Mont Roland*, with remains of a convent, said to have been founded by Roland. A statue of the paladin, which once stood in one of the chapels, is still to be seen amongst the ruins. A cottage is called *Loge de S. Martin*, because the saint is believed to have slept there when he came to consecrate an altar in 380.

In the neighbouring church of *Jouhe* is a statue of the Virgin, two feet high, shown as having been sculptured by the canonised pope S. Linus. Close by also is *Gujans*, with a fountain—Gurgites Janae—said to have been consecrated to Diana.

‘N’oubliez pas de visiter Gujans.  
Ses arbres verts et ses jardins rians,  
Le lit de jonc de sa nymphe heureuse,  
Sa roche antique et son onde amoureuse,  
Onde inquiète, image de nos jours,  
Qui, foible et vaine, a pris trop tôt sa course  
Devers le fleuve, où périt pour toujours  
Sa gloire errante—à vingt pas de sa source.’

*Yseult de Dôle*, ii. 2.

362 k. *Dole* (Hotels : *de Genève* ; *Ville de Lyon*)—called, under the happy rule of the House of Burgundy, *La Joyeuse*, but after two sieges by Louis XIV., *La Dolente*—was the capital of Franche Comté, and the seat of its parliament. Before the time of Louis XIV. the mountaineers of Franche Comté enjoyed a degree of liberty unknown in France, for its humblest peasant might become president of the parliament of Dole.  $\frac{1}{2}$  k. from the station the tableland we have been traversing makes a sudden dip towards the Saône, and on the steep sides of the hill are the old grey streets of the town. The tower of Notre Dame is the most conspicuous feature. This church, begun 1508,



is entered by a porch under the W. tower, and is a very lofty cruciform building, the nave having lower side aisles: the pillars are without capitals. Near the N. door is a statue of S. John Baptist, under a very beautiful canopy: a pedestal outside the N. wall, once occupied by a statue of Louis XVI., now bears that of Peace.

Close to the N. of the church, in the Rue Besançon, is the *Cave d'Enfer*, celebrated for the defence of the Dolois against the French in 1479, under Charles d'Amboise, who spared the lives of the little band which had taken refuge here, saying, 'Qu'on les laisse pour graine.' In the same street is the house of Jean Vurry, one of the only three buildings left standing after the siege. There are several other interesting 'bits' in Dole. In the Rue des Arènes are the portal of the Palais de Justice (formerly a convent of Cordeliers), and a pretty fountain, a little below which is a house with a renaissance tower. At the end of the Rue Besançon are pretty public walks and groves of chestnuts above the Saône.

[There is a road from Dole to Arbois, passing—

19 k. *Vaudrey*, where the church contains monuments of the illustrious family of Vaudrey, extinct in xviii. c., which bore as device, 'J'ai Valu, Vaulx et Vaudray.'

25 k. *Mathenay*. 2 k. l. of which is the modern château and the old tower of *Vadans*, which belonged to the family of Poitiers, of which the famous Diane was a member. The *Church*, partly xiii. c., is interesting.]

[For the line from Dole to Chagny see ch. i.]

[The line from Dole to Salins, by Mouchard, passes—

18 k. *Arc-et-Senans*. The church of *Arc* is enriched with glass and modern pictures given by Queen Christina of Spain.]

369 k. *Rochefort*, at the foot of a rock called *Le Saut de la Pucelle* ; whence a girl pursued by soldiers, recommending herself to the Virgin, is said to have thrown herself into the Doubs and to have been washed ashore unhurt. Of the castle—a château of the Ducs de Bourgogne—destroyed 1595, nothing remains but the entrance, approached by a drawbridge, and some vaults. The church of *Audelage* partly XII. c., is passed on r. ; then, on l., *Lavans*, with remains of a XIII. c. castle, and a XIV. c. church.

377 k. *Orchamps*, the Roman station of Crusinie. Near the church (XV. c. and XVI. c.) is a castle of XI. c.

380 k. *La Barre*.

There is a road hence to Gray, passing near (r.) the ruined abbey of *Acey*, founded 1136, and by (18 k.) *Montagney*, with a XV. c. feudal tower.

382 k. *Ranchot*, united by a suspension bridge to *Rans*, which has remains of an old château of the seneschals of Burgundy.

407 k. *Besançon* (Hotels : *du Nord*—best ; *de Paris* ; *de l'Europe*—commercial, most filthy). As Vesontio, this was the capital of the ancient tribe of the Sequani, of which Caesar speaks enthusiastically in his Commentaries. Under the Roman rule, it became a place of great importance. In the II. c. it was converted to Christianity by S. Ferréol and S. Ferjeux, martyred here in 212. After the fall of the Roman empire, *Besançon* was alternately Burgundian, Arlesian, Anglo-French, and Spanish. In XII. c. it became a free city, and it was not incorporated with France till the time of Louis XIV.

‘Dès les temps les plus anciens, les habitants de *Besançon*

conservaient le titre et le rang de citoyens, et les femmes elles-mêmes, dans les actes publics, étaient qualifiées de citoyennes. La cité, vraiment autonome, ne cessa de lutter avec énergie contre l'Empire, puis contre les rois d'Espagne pour le maintien de ses libertés, et lorsqu'elle fut annexée à la France, après avoir battu deux fois les armées de Louis XIV., ce fut à la condition de garder toute son autonomie locale.'—*Élisée Reclus*.

The long winding *Rue Ballant*, lined by old grey stone houses, leads to the *Place du Jauffroy*, with a statue of the Marquis de Jauffroy, who is said to have first applied steam to navigation in 1776. Close by is the large classical church of *La Madeleine*. Hence a bridge crosses the Doubs to the *Grande Rue*, but immediately on l. is the *Place de l'Abondance*, with its *Musée*, containing the *Library* and *Picture Gallery*. In the latter are two portraits by *Antonio Moro*; a picture of Galileo by *Velasquez*, and a Descent from the Cross by *Bronzino*, painted for the Medici chapel at Florence and given by the Grand Duke to Cardinal de Granvelle.

Hence the *Rue des Granges* and its continuation *Rue du Châteur* lead to the *Place de l'État Majeur*, with a handsome hotel. Here the street divides. Following the turn to the r. we ascend to the *Place S. Jean*, where considerable remains of a *Roman Theatre* have been found, and where several columns have been set up from the fragments discovered. A little ascent leads to the *Porte Noire* (Porta Nigra), a Roman triumphal gateway (partially restored) consisting of two tiers of columns, with an arch in the centre, ornamented with rude sculptures, and apparently of the time of the Antonines.

Behind, rises the xviii. c. porch of the *Cathedral of S. Jean*, which, for the most part, is hidden by houses.

Originally built by S. Hilaire and S. Aignan in iv. c., it was rebuilt in the ix. c., and again in xi. c. Of the latter period some fragments of the lower storey remain, but the greater part of the present building is xv. c. There is a double choir. The triforium and clerestory have triple lancets. Near the W. end is a picture by *Fra Bartolommeo*, representing the Madonna and Child, with saints and Carondelet, archbishop of Palermo, who erected the monument here to his brother, Ferri Carondelet, archdeacon of Besançon. The canons of this cathedral used to be robed in violet and officiate in mitres. Behind the cathedral is the xvii. c. Archbishop's *Palace*, handsomely furnished (xix. c.) by Cardinal de Rohan. In the conical crypt of a house dependent upon the palace, a chained skeleton has been found, supposed to be that of Gilbert Cousin, the friend of Erasmus, who died here in prison in 1567, aged 65.

Turning N. from the back of the cathedral, we may descend the narrow Rue du Chambrier to the *Porte Rivotte*, flanked by two round towers. Beyond this a road leads under the rocks crowned by the *Citadel* of Vauban to the curious *Porte Taillée*, partly cut out of the rock, partly built by the Romans, as an aqueduct for the waters of the Arcier.

Returning by the Rue Rivotte and the Rue de la Lue to the Place d'État Major, we may cross by the next side-street on l. and enter the Grande Place, close to the *Church of S. Maurice*, adorned with wood carvings from the abbey of La Charité. Opposite, is the very handsome *Palais Granvelle*, built by the famous Chancellor of Charles V., 1534-40, whose family was founded by the son of a Besançon locksmith. Beyond its cloistered court is the



little *Promenade Granvelle*. Continuing the Grande Rue, we reach the *Place S. Pierre*, containing the xviii. c. church of that name, and the heavy xvi. c. *Hôtel de Ville*, with the renaissance *Palais de Justice*, built by Hugues Sambin of Dijon, 1582-85. Further down the Grande Rue is (l., No. 13) a good gothic house.

Victor Hugo, Charles Nodier, Fourier, Prud'hon, and the sculptors Clésinger and Petit, have been Bisontines, as the natives of Besançon are called.

Excursions may be made to ( $5\frac{1}{2}$  k.) *Notre Dame de Buis* on the hill behind the citadel; and to (5 k.) the valley and waterfall of *Bout-du-Monde*. There is a diligence to (23 k.) *Ornans*, where the house which belonged to the painter Courbet has a fine renaissance chimney-piece in its kitchen. Courbet gave a statue to the village fountain, which was thrown down after his disgraceful exploits during the Commune at Paris, and now adorns a fountain at Morteau. The xvi. c. church contains the tombs of the grandparents of Cardinal Granvelle, who was a native of Ornans. A house, of Spanish character, is a memorial of the Spanish occupation. An excursion of 23 k. may be made from Ornans to the very picturesque source of the *Lison*, near the road to Salins. On the road to Pontarlier is (37 k.) *Mouthier*, which has a xvi. c. church, and remains of a Cluniac priory. An excursion may be made hence, by the *Combes de Nouaille*, to the picturesque source of the *Loue*, an abundant rush of water from a shallow cave under a rock overhung with trees.

[The branch line from Besançon to (75 k.) Locle in Switzerland passes—

67 k. *Morteau* (Hotel: *de la Guimbarde*), a town which rose round a Benedictine priory in the xii. c. The *Maison Pertusier* is of 1576. From the hill of *Tantillon* is a fine view.

70 k. *Villers-le-Lac*.  $2\frac{1}{2}$  k. is the hamlet of *Pargots* on the beautiful *Lac de Chailleux* or *Lac des Brenets*, which separates France from Switzerland. A little steamer enables the tourist to reach the further extremity of the lake (Hotel: *du Sant*), whence

a path leads to the best view of the really fine waterfall called *Le Saut du Doubs*.

‘Quelquefois un volume d’eau écumeuse tombe d’aplomb avec un épouvantable bruit ; d’autres fois moins grossi des pluies, des glaces ou des neiges, il laisse glisser sans colère de longues nappes de cristal qui, au moindre obstacle, se brisent en mille éclats, finissent par se réduire presque en vapeur dans leur chute, et alors les rayons du soleil, perçant cette pluie de paillettes brillantes et diaprées, forment des iris d’une beauté éblouissante.’  
—‘*L’Ancienne France*,’ *Nodier, Taylor, et De Cailleux*.]

The railway from Besançon to Belfort runs along the valley of the Doubs,—the *Aldua Dubis* of Caesar,—which, in some places, is exceedingly pretty and varied, recalling the best scenery of the Wye on a much larger scale, before reaching—

439 k. (from Paris) *Baume-les-Dames* (Hotels: *du Commerce ; de France*), which derives its name from a Benedictine abbey to which nuns were not admitted unless they could show sixteen noble quarterings. The monastic church serves as a *Halle*. Hence the line follows the winding rocky valley of *Clerval* for some distance.

485 k. *Montbéliard*—Mons Beliardus (Hotel: *du Lion Rouge*), formerly the capital of a countship, which passed by marriage to the house of Würtemberg in xiv. c., and was amalgamated with the kingdom of France in 1792. The town was half ruined in the German war, when it had to support the presence of the enemy for nine months. As the population is chiefly Protestant, the shops are open all day long on Sundays, on which day more business is done than on any other. The old *Château* of the counts, raised high on a platform, was partially rebuilt in 1751, but has

two massive round towers: the *Halles* are xvi. c. In a square is a statue, by David d'Angers, of Georges Cuvier, a native of the town, whose house is preserved. The *Musée* is full of relics from the neighbouring Mandeure. The town offers much pleasant society.

[The road from Montbéliard to Pontarlier passes—

10 k. *Mandeure*, the Epomanduodurum of the Romans, where there are some traces of the ancient buildings—bridges, a theatre, aqueduct, baths, an arch of triumph, etc. There are also ruins of a xv. c. fortress of the Archbishops of Besançon.

17 k. *Pont-de-Roide*, in a picturesque position opposite the gorge of *La Crochère*.

30 k. *S. Hippolyte* (Hotel: *Mercier*), at the junction of several mountain gorges and the meeting of the Doubs and Dessoubre. A well-engineered road leads through pine forests to—

41 k. *Maiche*, with a ruined castle and two xvi. c. hotels.

53 k. *Le Russey*, with a cavern which served as a refuge to the inhabitants in the xvii. c. wars.

70 k. *Morteau* (see p. 275), whence the falls of the Doubs should be visited.

78½ k. *Colombière*. On r. is the quaint *Grotte-de-Notre-Dame-de-Remonot*, which served as a church to the inhabitants of the village of Remonot, on the r. bank of the Doubs, and is still a place of pilgrimage. It has a campanile on the rock above. 2 k. further is the *Grotte du Trésor*, where a band of coiners long worked with impunity, protected through the fear inspired by the legend of a dragon, which guarded a hidden treasure there. On the opposite bank of the Doubs is the *Grotte de la Grande-Cheminée*, the refuge of the inhabitants during the invasion of the Duke of Saxe-Weimar.

87 k. *Montbenoit*, with a church dating from xiii. c., but of which the nave is xiv. c., the choir xvi. c.; it contains admirable stall-work of 1520 and a monument of the Sires de Jouy. Joining the church is a xv. c. cloister. The road passes (r.) the great modern church of *Doubs*, before reaching—

101 k. Pontarlier.

‘Desolate sweeps of rocky plain, shelving mountain-side, bits of scant herbage alternating with vineyards, their gold-green foliage lending wondrous lustre to the otherwise arid landscape, the rocks rising higher and higher as we go—such are the features that announce the Jura.’—‘*Holidays in Eastern France.*’]

493 k. *Héricourt*, where the French army, under Bourbaki, was defeated by the Germans, Jan. 1871.

503 k. *Belfort* (see *North-Eastern France*, ch. vii.).

The line from Besançon to Lyon passes through a great part of the Jura district. The trains are very slow, by—

13 k. *Montferrand*. 2 k. distant, in the woods, is a large ruined castle.

22 k. *Byans*.

4 k. distant are *Les Grottes d'Osselle*, of the usual character of limestone caverns, with the stalactyte halls, to which guides give fantastic names. These caves are especially cold and damp. To see them properly takes 1½ hrs.

41 k. *Mouchard* (see p. 271).

Here a line branches off l. to (8 k.) *Salins* (Hotels: *des Bains*; *des Messageries*), a dull town, well situated on the Furieuse, with a view of four mountain peaks; ancient salt-works, now a hydropathic establishment; old walls and a gate; the church of *S. Anatole*, with curious wood carving; a town hall with tapestries; and the church of *S. Maurice*, with a good renaissance statue. A two hours' drive may be taken to the source of the *Lison*, which leaps down to the green pastures from a dark cavern.

[A road of 121 k. leads from Salins by *Morez* to Geneva—a route by which some of the most beautiful views in the Jura are seen, with the Alps in the distance.

‘Embossed upon a plain of verdure, of woodland, and of vineyard, there lay, or rather hovered before the sight, so delicate and



shaded and ideal was the vision, the apparition, as it might seem, of a celestial lake. Of a colour deeper than that of the most fathomless sky, its margin indistinct with snow-white reflection, like the hovering of shadowy wings, it seemed, from where they stood, to rise above the earth as a pathway and pavement of that city whose foundations are sapphire; and above this marvellous and glorious sight there rose another more glorious and wonderful still, for above the pavement of this mystic sea rose into the sky, pure in a whiteness hitherto unconceived, distinct against the delicate morning light, piled in stupendous fashion, etched in lines of marvellous witchery and glamour, in pointed peak and giant strength, the stainless region of the snow.'—*J. H. Short-house, 'The Countess Eve.'*

The road enters Geneva just after passing *Ferney-Voltaire*, where the château of Voltaire retains many relics of him.

'Le lieu, ennuyeux de lui-même, n'est nullement égayé du château mesquin qu'il y fit.'—*Michelet.*

Here Voltaire used to take all strangers round the village to show the improvements he had made, the good he had done, and the church he had built, and then to the house to give them the opportunity of hearing his latest compositions.

'Voltaire se fit une solitude éclatante; les Délices et Ferney lui firent comme un petit royaume; toute l'Europe le voyait de loin, assis, comme le dieu des tempêtes, entre les Alpes et le Jura, et la philosophie eut son lieu de pèlerinage, où les adeptes des idées nouvelles devaient, durant vingt ans et plus, venir saluer leur patriarche, et où affluèrent jusqu'aux souverains.'—*Henri Martin, 'Hist. de France.'*]

[Another line leads from Mouchard to Pontarlier, by—

418 k. (from Paris) *Andelot-en-Montagne*. Hence there is a branch of 14 k. to *Champagnole* (Hotel: *de Genève*), picturesquely placed on the Ain, which rises near this. *Mont Rivel* may be ascended from hence, for the sake of its panorama of the Jura: Mont Blanc is seen in extreme distance. A little E. is *Nozeroy*, with a xv. c. church, a fine machicolated gateway, and a striking

ruined castle, where Charles le Téméraire rested after the battle of Morat. The church of *Mièges* (1 k.) has a good gothic portal. The Ain rises near this, at the foot of a rock. In the forest of *La Fraisse* is the curious stone called *Pierre Lite*.

456 k. *Pontarlier* (Hotels: *de la Poste*; *Zum Bahnhof*), situated on the Doubs at the entrance of the gorge of La Cluse, opposite which, on an isolated rock, splendidly picturesque upon its precipices, is the *Château de Joux*, which was the prison of Mirabeau, who wrote his *Lettres à Sophie* here; and of Toussaint L'Ouverture, who died in the fortress, and whose gravestone, without an inscription, stands against the external wall of the church. Facing the château is the *Fort de Larmont*, on the site of the ancient Château de la Cluse.]

49 k. *Arbois* (Arbosium—fertile land), near the entrance of the valley or *cluse* of the Cuisance, founded in iv. c. It has a château which was the residence of the Comtes de Bourgogne till xv. c.; a parish church of *S. Just*, founded x. c., with some fragments of a priory attached to it; a collegiate church of *Notre Dame*, now a corn exchange; an old Ursuline convent, now the *Hôtel de Ville*, and many other convents converted to secular uses. The towers *Gloriette* and *Vellefaux* are remains of the old fortifications. Arbois is still as celebrated for its wine as in the time of Henri IV., who, when reconciled to the Duc de Mayenne, said: 'J'ai du vin d'Arbois en mes benefices, dont je vous enverrai deux bouteilles, car je sais bien que vous ne le laissez pas.' In making this wine the grapes, by a delicate and elaborate process, are dried in straw.

62 k. *Poligny* (Hotel: *Central*—good and clean).

'There is a friendliness, a *bonhomie*, and a disinterestedness about these hotel-keepers. At the *table d'hôte* dinners the master of the house always presides and looks after his guests; waiters there are none; sometimes the plates are changed by the landlady,

who also superintends the kitchen, sometimes by the landlord, sometimes by a guest, and shortcomings are made up for by general geniality and good-nature; everyone knows everyone, and the dinner is a meeting of old friends.'—*'Holidays in Eastern France.'*

Poligny is a pretty, sleepy little town, under *Le Dent*, a limestone cliff crowned by a cross, upon which imagination sees the figure of a man with a basket in the *Pierre-qui-vire*. Well-paved streets lead to a little square, with an avenue of pink chestnuts beyond it. The hunchbacked parish church of *S. Hippolyte* is of 1422, and contains, in its porch, a remarkable crucifix between figures of SS. Mary and John. Behind the church is a *Convent of Poor Clares*, with a well, shown as due to the prayers of S. Colette, its foundress in xv. c. The mutilated church of *Montivillard* has a fine alabaster altar-piece. The Corn Exchange was the church of the Jacobins, who were the inquisitors of the district, and shut up their victims in dungeons which still exist under the sous-préfecture.

'The village, or rural town, of Poligny, clustered out of well-built old stone houses, with gardens and orchards; and gathering at the midst of it into some pretence or manner of a street, straggles along the roots of Jura at the opening of a little valley, which in Yorkshire or Derbyshire limestone would have been a gorge between nodding cliffs, with a pretty pattering stream at the bottom; but in Jura is a far-retiring theatre of rising terraces, with bits of field and garden getting foot on them on various heights; a spiry convent in its hollow, and well-built little nests of husbandry-building set in corners of meadow, and on juts of rock;—no stream, to speak of, nor springs in it, nor the smallest conceivable reason for its being there, but that God made it.'—*Ruskin, 'Praeterita.'*

Within a short drive to the E. of Poligny is the xiv. c.

*Château de Bersaillin* (Marquis de Froissard). The chapel contains the tomb of Adrien de Vaudrey and Anne de Vuillefans his wife.

[The road from Poligny to Geneva passes (3 k.) *Vaux*, with a Cluniac abbey, now a college; and (67 k.) *Montrond*, with the *Château de la Roche*, founded XIII. c.]

77 k. *Domblans*, with a picturesque old manor, where Charles le Téméraire and Henri IV. have both stayed.

Tourists should take the omnibus (25 c.) to *Voiteur* (Hotel: *Central*—a tolerable country inn, with very civil people), a pretty village with a remarkable chapel amongst chestnut groves, under the height which bears the village of *Château-Châlon*, celebrated for the wine called *vin jaune de garde*, which resembles tokay. At Voiteur a carriage (5 fr. to go and return, with two hours there) should be taken to *Balme-les-Messieurs*, beautifully situated in a wooded gorge crowned by limestone rocks. An avenue of limes leads to a gateway, which forms an entrance to the enclosure of the ruined cloister, now surrounded by farm-buildings, but retaining its abundant fountain in the centre. On one side rises the church, now parochial, with a fine crocketed spire, approached on the W. by a porch divided by a central pillar supporting a statue of the Saviour. The nave has ten pillars on either side, alternately square, octangular and round, supporting round arches. The vaulting is later, and the choir is entirely pointed. At the entrance of the nave is a peculiar font, with a tall cross rising out of it. The aisles contain a number of incised monuments of abbots, some of them very fine. In the choir is a magnificently sculptured and painted rétable, with wings. On either side of the choir are chapels: that on l. is full of interesting but much mutilated monuments. Under the beautiful arch which divides it from the choir is the tomb of the Abbot Amedée de Châlon. Behind, in full armour, with angels at his head, lies Renaud de Bourgogne, Comte de Montbéliard (xiv. c.). In an inner chapel, low on a marble bed, lies the Princesse Mahaut, first abbess of Sauvemont, daughter of Jean de Châlon l'Antique, and, against the wall, on a tomb



surrounded by quaint figures, rests the headless effigy of the Dame de Villars, wife of Hugues de Vienne (xv. c.).

Baume is especially interesting as the cradle of the order of Cluny. Pilgrimages have been frequently made hither to the relics of S. Lothair of Autun and of the hermit S. Aldegrin. But the most celebrated abbot of Baume was Jean de Watteville,



AT BALME-LES-MESSIEURS.

who, serving as colonel under Philippe IV., became weary of arms and turned Carthusian. Monastic life, however, soon proved too monotonous, and he escaped from his convent dressed as a knight. He killed his prior who pursued him, and, arriving late at an inn and finding a traveller who had come before in possession of all the supper in the house, murdered him also, and forced the host and his servants to serve him as guides. Escaping to Turkey, he turned Mahommedan, and after fighting

bravely for the Porte against the Venetians, was created Pacha of the Morea. Bored, however, again with a military life, he made a secret treaty with the Venetians, and betrayed to them the strongholds entrusted to his keeping. The pope rewarded his treason by plenary absolution for his crimes, and by investing him with the abbey of Baume. Even here he betrayed Spain and Franche Comté by a secret treaty with the envoys of Louis XIV. His character is indicated by the country legend, which says that his remains have never grown cold, and that on one day in every year his bones reunite.

91 k. *Lons-le-Saunier* (Hotels: *de l'Europe*—very indifferent; *de Genève*), the capital of the Jura, a most dreary little town. The principal street, of Spanish character, has arcades under the houses, like Berne: in the square is a statue of General Lecourbe. It was on the promenade of La Chevalerie that (May 31, 1815) Marshal Ney determined on going over to Napoléon, and proclaimed to his troops: 'La cause des Bourbons est à jamais perdue.'

The village of *Montaignu*, half an hour distant amongst the vineyards, was the residence of Rouget de Lisle, the soldier-poet, who electrified France by the *Marseillaise*; his house is marked by a solid iron gateway. The neighbourhood of Lons-le-Saunier supplies the clear and golden *vin de paille*. An excursion may be made to (7 k.) the ruined church of *L'Étoile*, and the castle of *Le Pin* (xiii. c. and xv. c.), where Henri IV. slept, 1595, during the siege of Lons-le-Saunier. At 11 k., in the same direction, is *Arlay*, with a ruined château built by Gerard de Roussillon in x. c., which now belongs to Prince d'Aremberg, who has a modern château in the plain below. Arlay contains several curious houses, and a cross opposite the hospital of S. Esprit.

[A road runs S. from Lons-le-Saunier to (77 k.) Nantua, passing—

40 k. *Arinthod*, which has a xii. c. church. Near the town are the megalithic monuments of *La Pierre Enon* and *La Chaise a Dieu*. On the edge of the Valouze is the rock called *l'Homme*

*de pierre.* After passing (44 k.) *S. Hymetière*, the castle of *Oliferne* is seen upon the hills on l. The three rocks called *Aiguilles des trois dames* are supposed to represent three ladies whom the lord of the castle drowned in the river in a cask; nightly their spirits descend from hence to visit their former abode, and when they return at dawn, their former oppressor is obliged to issue forth from the castle as a wild huntsman, who can have no rest.

67 k. *Izernore*, the ancient *Izarnodurum*, of which many remains, especially those of a temple, have been discovered.]

[A diligence leaves Lons-le-Saunier at 6.30 a.m. for S. Claude, performing the journey in six hours. The road taken leaves on the r. the ruined *Château-de-Présilly* (xvi. c.) of the Marnesia family, and passes through (22 k.) *Orgelet*, where the princes of Châlons-Auxerre had a castle, but is exceedingly bleak and uninteresting till within 3 k. of S. Claude.

‘Les plateaux calcaires du Jura, très-salubres pour leurs propres habitants, mais trop froids pour les étrangers, sont peuplés des hommes de France les plus hauts de stature : le Doubs, le Jura, et Saône et Loire sont les trois départements où l'exemption pour défaut de taille atteignait la moindre proportion de jeunes gens.’—*Elisée Reclus*.

Near (40 k.) *Les Villards d'Héria* (not visible from the road) is the *Lac d'Antre*, a dismal mountain tarn. Some remains of an aqueduct, in the savage *Val d'Antre*, are attributed to a Roman town built by the Egyptian legion sent by Augustus to destroy a college of the Druids. Some distance further a road (r.) turns aside to *S. Romain-la-Roche*, where S. Romain died (460) in an abbey which he had founded for Zola, wife of S. Lupicin. The monastery was destroyed at an early period, but the church was rebuilt xiv. c., and contains a fine xiii. c. reliquary.

(A more interesting road from Lons-le-Saunier to S. Claude is that by (23 k.) *Clairvaux*—Clara-vallis,—which passes (47 k.) *S. Lupicin*, where that saint, in v. c., founded an abbey, of which the prior's house remains. In the xi. c. church is a reliquary of S. Lupicin. (A road leads from Clairvaux to Geneva by S. Laurent.) Our road passes close to the pretty *Lac-de-Bonlieu*, surrounded

by rocks and trees. At the N. end of its sombre waters are the ruins of a Chartreuse. Beyond, at a short distance from the road on the l., is the *Saut Girard*, the cascade of the *Hérisson*, which, under the name of *Rivière-du-Lac*, emerges from the lake. It falls from a height of 15 mètres to the depth of a valley where there are some mills and cottages. 2 k. further on its course, the *Hérisson* passes through a narrow gorge in which it forms two other cascades, the *Saut-de-la-Montagne* (40 mètr.) and the *Saut-des-Vaux* (60 mètr.), after which it forms the little lakes of *Chambly* before falling into the *Ain*. *Ménetru-en-Joux*, between the lakes of *Châlins* and *Chambly*, takes its name from the menestrels or minstrels of former times. Near the *Saut Girard* is the *Lac-de-la-Motte*, said to have swallowed up a village whose inhabitants had refused to give alms to a beggar-woman, with the exception of one person, whose house was saved.)

*S. Claude* (Hotel : *de l'Écu de France*—close to the cathedral ; *du Nord*). This little bishopric in the heart of the mountains hangs picturesquely, in lines of old houses and balconies, against the steep edge of a hill beneath *Mont Bayard*, and above the meeting of the *Bienne* and the *Tacon*. Immediately after crossing the suspension-bridge over a deep ravine, we reach the *Cathedral of S. Pierre*, recently restored—a heavy gothic building, with a low tower. The interior has a wide nave ending in an apse, separated from its narrow side-aisles by very lofty pillars without capitals. At the end of the r. aisle is the shrine of *S. Claude*. On the stalls (by *Pierre de Vitry* of Geneva, 1449-60), the friend of *Holbein*, is a charming little figure of *S. Jérôme* reading to his lion. The famous abbey of *S. Claude* was founded by *S. Lupicin*. Its fourth abbot was *S. Oyan*, from whom the town, originally called *Condat*, became *Condat-S.-Oyan*. In honour of the twelfth abbot the name was changed to *S. Claude*. In the time of the thirty-sixth abbot, *Pierre Morel*, the abbey was visited by *Louis XI.*, in fulfilment of a vow.

‘L’état de servitude où ce peuple a vecu jusqu’à la révolution, sous la domination du chapitre de Saint-Claude, en le séparant de la société dans l’ordre politique, avait chez lui cimenté



davantage le sentiment de la parenté. Il y avait étroitement serré les liens de famille; il y avait enfin établi le régime patriarcal qui n'existe peut-être nulle autre part en France.'—*J. M. Lequinio, 'Voyage pittoresque et physico-économique dans le Jura.'*



S. CLAUDE.

There is a great manufactory of pipes in the town, and other small objects—'articles de S. Claude,'—made from the boxwood which grows abundantly upon the hills. The immediate environs to the S. are very pretty and attractive.

'The Jura rock, balanced in the make of it between chalk and marble, weathers indeed into curious rifts and furrows,

but rarely breaks loose, and has long ago clothed itself either with forest flowers, or with sweet short grass, and all blossoms that love sunshine. The pure air, even on this lower ledge, cherishes their sweetest scents and liveliest colours, and the winter gives them rest under thawless serenity of snow.'—*Ruskin, 'Praeterita.'*

A pleasant excursion of about 6 k. may be made (behind the cathedral) to the *Falls of the Flumen*, a walk which shows to perfection the peculiar situation of S. Claude, which Lamartine compared to Zarelé in the Lebanon.

'Every turn we take of the upward-curling road gives us a new and more beautiful picture; the valley grows deeper and deeper, the mountains on either side higher and higher, little châteaux peeping amidst the grey and the green, here perched on an apparently unapproachable mountain top, there in the midst of some rocky dell. As we get near the falls we are reaching one of the most romantic points of view in all the Jura, so imposingly do the mountains close around us as we enter the gorge, so lovely the scene shut in by the impenetrable natural wall; for within this framework of rock, peak, and precipice are little farms, gardens, and orchards, gems of dazzling green, pine-forests frowning close above these islets of luxuriance and cultivation, dells, glades, and lawny open spaces between a rampart of fantastically formed crags and solitary peaks, a scene unlike anything but itself.'—*'Holidays in Eastern France.'*

S. Claude is most easily reached from Oyonnax (see ch. vi.). During 1890 the railway will probably reach the town itself.]

[A road of 77 k. leads from Lons-le-Saunier to Pontarlier, passing at (23 k.) *Pont-du-Navoy*, within 6 k. of the *Lac de Châlin*, near which is the interesting and picturesque *Château de Châlin*, rebuilt xv. c. and xvi. c.

After leaving Lons-le-Saunier, the railway passes—  
96 k. *Gevingey*, which has a château of 1657, with a portal flanked by two great towers.]

100 k. S. *Agnès*.

3 k. E., in a gorge of the Jura, are the (XIII. c. and XIV. c.) church and castle of *S. Laurent-la-Roche*.

111 k. *Cousance*, has a church of XIII. c.

11½ k. E. is the interesting xv. c. feudal château of *Cressia*, to which, being the residence of his daughter, Bussy-Rabutin was exiled under Louis XIV.

113 k. *Cuiseaux*, picturesquely situated at the foot of the first chain of the Jura. The church has good xv. c. stallwork.

124 k. *S. Amour* (Hotel: *du Commerce*), the ancient Vinciacum, renamed after a soldier of the Theban legion. The *Church* is mostly xvii. c. In the chapel of the *Collège* is a statue of the native theologian, Guillaume de S. Amour.

130 k. *Coligny*, capital of a lordship, belonging to the family (dating from x. c.) of which Admiral Gaspard de Coligny was a member.

154 k. Bourg. See ch. vi.

## CHAPTER VI.

*MÂCON TO GENEVA BY BOURG, AND FROM BELLE-GARDE TO LE BOUVARET BY THE SOUTH SIDE OF THE LAKE OF GENEVA. IN AIN AND HAUTE-SAVOIE.*

440 k. (from Paris) *Mâcon*. See ch. i.

478 k. *Bourg-en-Bresse* (Hotels: *de France*—excellent; *de l'Europe*). The stately church of *Notre Dame*, formerly a cathedral, dates from 1505-45, except the W. front, with its massive tower, which is renaissance. One of the chapels has good stained glass. The handsome stallwork is XVI. c. The astronomer Lalande was born in the street which bears his name, and the anatomist Bichat, born at Thoirette, a little village on the Ain, is commemorated here by a statue by David d'Angers.

At the end of the E. suburb, of S. Nicolas, stands the magnificent *Church of Brou*. It originated in a vow of Marguerite de Bourgogne, Duchesse de Savoie, that she would build a church and Benedictine monastery, if her husband, Duke Philippe II., recovered from injuries he had received whilst hunting (in 1480). The Duchess died three years after, before she could carry out her intentions, but the work she had planned was begun by her daughter-in-



law Marguerite d'Autriche (in 1506) in her widowhood, under the architect Loys van Boghem, to whose aid all the most celebrated sculptors in Europe were summoned. The whole was finished in 1532, after the death of Marguerite, who had entrusted its completion to the Augustinian monks of the adjoining convent. The cost was 2,200,000 fr., a sum enormous for the time.

'Cette église, miracle de sculpture, fut vingt ans durant le joujou laborieux de la Flamande Marguerite. Elle en a fait l'église de Dieu? non, mais de Philibert de Savoie, son jeune époux, et son temple aussi à elle-même. Toute figure, toute histoire, y rappelle la prééminence de la femme, mais ses défauts y sont aussi; l'amour du joli, du petit. Sous cette voûte sans élévation, vous voyez un enchantement de guipures et de broderies de blanche pierre ou d'albâtre; partout uniformément se croisent la marguerite et la plume des lais d'amour et du traité de Cambrai. Rébus, énigmes et logogryphes témoignent de l'esprit du temps. Brodeuse et fileuse excellente, cette princesse semble avoir, en rêvant ces devises, filé son église au fuseau des fées, filé indéfatigablement: mais le spectateur se fatigue dans son admiration monotone. François I., entrant dans l'église de Brou, en remarqua tout d'abord la fragilité; cette pierre d'un blanc virginal, peu solide aux fortes gelées, demanda des réparations même avant l'achèvement. L'habile Flamand qui la bâtit avait justement oublié la conduite des eaux, la question capitale de conservation.'—*Michélet, 'Hist. de France.'*

At the Revolution, the church of Brou was one of the monuments ordained to be kept up at the expense of the State; nevertheless, it was stripped of its leaden roof, used as a barn for hay (the convent being turned into a barrack), and not given back to worship till 1814. The main building has recently been entirely restored, but the monuments have not been injured or interfered with.

The exterior of the church is usually condemned by architects as too complicated, but the W. front is exceedingly rich, and its sculpture of delicate beauty.

‘At Brou, all majesty of form and constructive propriety are lost sight of, though we wonder that stone could be cut into such a variety of lace-like forms, and are dazzled by the splendour of the whole.’—*Fergusson*.

The central pillar of the W. door supports a beautiful figure of S. Nicolas of Tolentino: that of S. Andrew is said to be a portrait of its sculptor, André Columban. Opposite the portal, on the ground, is a singular XVI. c. dial.

‘Devant le portail est un cadran solaire singulier, où l’observateur se sert de stèle à lui-même. Sur une longue dalle est tracée une ligne méridienne, de chaque côté de laquelle on lit les noms des mois de l’année. Autour de cette pierre, vingt-quatre bornes, portant le nom d’une heure du jour, sont disposées en ellipse et inégalement espacées. Pour savoir l’heure, il suffit de connaître dans quel mois de l’année on se trouve, et se placer sur le nom de ce mois. L’ombre que projette le corps de l’observateur se porte alors sur une des heures, et lui fait connaître ainsi l’heure, un peu approximativement il est vrai.’—*Prosper Mérimée*.

The majestic and simple interior consists of a triple nave, with side-chapels. A beautiful roodloft screens off the sanctuary, to which much splendour of colouring is given by the stained glass and elaborately carved stallwork. In the great E. window, Philibert de Savoie is seen kneeling, attended by his patron, the bishop S. Philibert; and his wife Marguerite, by her patroness S. Margaret, with her

<sup>1</sup> See an essay of the astronomer Lalande upon this dial.

dragon. Beneath are the glorious tombs, the main part of which was carried out by Michel Colombe, in the fashion he had seen in the 'sepultures de feuz messeigneurs les ducs de Bourgoigne,' when, as a boy, he worked under those 'souverains tailleurs d'ymaiges, Maistre Claux et Maistre Anthoniet' (Antoine le Monturier),<sup>1</sup> but in the minor details he introduced the already popular arabesques of the Renaissance. The sculptures are by a variety of hands.

'Qu'il me suffice de dire que tout ce qui semblerait difficile à exécuter en métal a été exécuté en *marbre*; qu'on y voit des rinceaux, des fleurs, des feuilles de vigne d'une délicatesse inouïe, saillant de trois pouces du bloc dans lequel elles ont été taillées, soutenues par des tiges, en marbre aussi, tellement fines, tellement fragiles qu'on ne peut comprendre comment leur poids seul n'a pas suffi pour les rompre. Comptez les pétales des marguerites, tous détachés les uns des autres, tous taillés dans le même bloc; mesurez leur épaisseur, et vous conviendrez qu'un bon fabricant de fleurs artificielles ne pouvait faire mieux avec ses fils de fer et sa batiste. Les matériaux de Brou sont le *marbre*. Qu'on se figure encore que tout ce choeur long de quatre-vingt-dix-sept pieds, ses chapelles, son jubé, ses fenêtres, etc., sont décorés de la sorte, et l'on aura une idée de la patience, de l'adresse, et de la résignation des artistes du XVI<sup>e</sup> siècle.'—*Prosper Mérimée*.

On the r., under a magnificent canopy, adorned with five exquisite little statues of saints, lies Marguerite de Bourgogne, in her ducal mantle and crown, with her feet upon a greyhound and her face turned towards the tomb of her son. Indescribably beautiful are the *marguerites*, detached in web-like sculpture from the architectural lines.

<sup>1</sup> Claux and Anthoniet, the last sculptors of the Burgundian school.

The columns and the border of Marguerite's dress as well as the pillow of the duchess have an interweaving of renaissance ornament. Around the base are the marvellous figures of the *pleureuses*, their tiny faces depicted with infinite expression beneath their low-falling cowls.

'On admirera la grâce, la naïveté des poses de ces figures de pleureuses, la tête voilée, sur le soubassement du tombeau



PLEUREUSE, CHURCH OF BROU.

de Marguerite de Bourbon : puis, si l'on se couche à terre et qu'on porte une bougie vers leurs voiles, on verra des têtes charmantes refouillées à une assez grande profondeur pour ne pouvoir être aperçues que de la manière incommode que je viens de dire.'—*Prosper Mérimée*.

In the centre is the tomb of Philibert le Beau, a table supported by pillars, with marvellously beautiful statues of the Sibyls. The Antinous of his time is seen within, in



death—a demi-god asleep, not unlike the Antinous of the Vatican. Above, he is represented again in ducal magnificence, surrounded by mourning cherubs, with his face turned towards his wife, but his hands towards his mother. His motto 'Fert' appears oft-repeated in intricate sculpture. Michel Colombe was already eighty when he designed this monument.

On the l. lies Marguerite d'Autriche, daughter of the Emperor Maximilian I., aunt of Charles V., and grand-



MARGUERITE D'AUTRICHE.

daughter of Charles le Téméraire, married for a few months to Jean de Castille, and afterwards for three years to Philibert. She also is represented twice—once in life under a canopy, and beneath in the supreme loveliness of death, with her long hair flowing over her shoulders. On the cornice of her tomb is her motto, 'Fortune, infortune, forte une.' On the ornaments of this monument, and that of Philibert, Vambelli and Oropio Campitoglio, Italians; Conrad and Thomas Meyr, Swiss; Benoît Serins, a Frenchman, and many others, all worked together, the Italians probably designing what the others carried out.

Above the figures of Philibert and Marguerite, in the window behind their tombs, is a procession, representing the Triumph of Christ. He is carried on a car, in a throng headed by Adam and Eve, who are followed by the patriarchs and an immense variety of figures, including the mother of the Maccabees, with her seven children. The magnificent altar of the Virgin close by, is full of delicate little figures, telling the story of her life, with the Assumption in the centre. On a bracket of marvellous sculpture is a noble figure of S. Andrew. Scarcely less beautiful is the oratory of Marguerite d'Autriche, where she attended to hear mass, seated by a fire, being able to see the priest at the altar through a slanting arch in the wall.

‘Cette arcade de biais, dont on trouve un autre exemple dans l’église de S. Pierre, à Saumur, est un problème de stéréotomie habilement résolu.’—*Mérimée*.

In the nave is a fine modern statue of S. Vincent de Paul, by Cabuchet.<sup>1</sup>

The direct line to Geneva runs due E. from Bourg. After passing (521 k. from Paris) *Simandre*, the railway crosses the deep bed of the Ain by the handsome viaduct of *Cèze*, and soon after runs for some distance along precipices at a fearful height above the valley.

535 k. *La Cluze*. Here is the branch E. by (13 k.) *Oyonnax*, to (43 k.) S. Claude (see ch. v.). The latter

<sup>1</sup> Wearisome difficulties are thrown by the authorities in the way of artists or architects wishing to draw or make notes at Brou. They must toil back to the préfecture for an order, and even when obtained, it must be countersigned by the Superior of the neighbouring institution.

part of the road from Oyonnax to S. Claude follows the pretty mountain valley of the Bienne.

539 k. *Nantua*, near the lake of the name, has a transition romanesque church, the only remnant of a monastery founded here in vii. c. Charles le Chauve, who died at Brioude in 807, is buried here. The portal has curious sculptures from the Apocalypse.

[A very picturesque road leads from La Cluze to Pont d'Ain by (20 k.) *Cerdon*, a most picturesque place with deeply overhanging roofs, and a fine ruined castle.]

[For the road N. to (77 k.) Lons-le-Saunier see ch. v.]

[Three roads lead from Nantua to Belley (see ch. vii.). The shortest (61 k.) passes, at 16 k. from Nantua, the remains of the *Chartreuse of Meyriat*, founded, 1116, by Ponce de Balme, Bishop of Belley.

‘Par mille angles du sentier qui serpente au sein des noires forêts, nous pénétrons dans une région vraiment sublime de tristesse. Pas une figure humaine, pas un toit de chalet. Deux remparts à pic, couverts d’arbres vivaces qui semblent croître sur la tête les uns des autres, nous pressent, nous étouffent, et semblent, par leurs détours multipliés, nous pousser et nous enfermer dans d’inextricables solitudes. J’ai vu beaucoup de sites plus grandioses, je n’en ai guère vu de plus austères. Les plus belles cimes des Alpes, des Pyrénées, et des Apennins ne produisent pas une végétation plus robuste et plus imposante.

‘À Meyriat, les restes de la chartreuse consistent en quelques belles arcades chargées de plusieurs bariétaires et à demi ensevelies dans les éboulements de la montagne, que le gazon a recouverte. Le portail est encore debout, et conserve son air monastique. Le torrent se précipite avec fracas derrière la chartreuse, roule à côté et se laisse tomber sur l’angle d’un

bâtiment détaché qu'il achève de degrader, et qu'il semble prêt à emporter tout à fait dans un jour d'orage. Ce site m'a paru, au milieu de la pluie, mélancolique, froid, et admirablement choisi pour une vie éternellement uniforme et pour des hommes voués au culte de l'idée unique et absolue. Point de perspectives, point de contrastes ; des pentes de gazon d'un vert égal et magnifique ; des profondeurs de forêts sans issues, sans la moindre échappée pour le regard et pour la pensée ; partout des sapins, des prairies étroites et des forêts coupées par l'invincible rempart de la montagne.'—*Sand*, '*Lettres d'un Voyageur*.'

At 44 k. is *Vieu*, with considerable remains of a Roman aqueduct and a XIII. c. church constructed with fragments of Roman buildings.

The second route from Nantua to Belley, by Hauteville and Tenay, passes (at 31½ k.) by *Nantuy*, 10 minutes' walk from which is the beautiful cascade called *Chute d'Albarine*.

The third route (of 71 k.) is by Izenave and S. Rambert.]

563 k. *Bellegarde*, the frontier station (Hotel: *de la Poste*). Formerly travellers stopped here and crossed the bridge over the Valserine, afterwards turning r. to reach (10 min.) *La Perte du Rhône*, where the river disappeared suddenly under the limestone rocks ; but the whole is now destroyed by the works of an American Company, and there is nothing worth seeing.

'Nulle part la force motrice de l'eau n'est utilisée d'une manière plus complète et plus ingénieuse que dans l'âpre défilé de Bellegarde. En amont du gouffre, la puissance du Rhône, évaluée en travail, représente six ou huit mille chevaux-vapeur ; c'est la force qu'on a commencé de discipliner en 1751. Un large tunnel de six mètres de hauteur et de plus qu'un demi-kilomètre de longueur, creusé en droite ligne dans le rocher, au nord du défilé de la "perte," emporte les eaux motrices sous les turbines d'un édifice construit dans le lit même de la Valserine, près du



confluent. Des câbles de fer, soutenus de distance en distance par des piliers, transmettent le mouvement, du fond de la gorge aux usines situées à plusieurs centaines de mètres de là sur le plateau de Bellegarde. Un village industriel, qui pourrait être le commencement d'une grande ville, reçoit ainsi la force d'un fleuve qui coule à 130 mètres plus bas. Des galeries creusées jusqu'à un kilomètre de distance dans les couches de grès vert qui bordent le fleuve fournissent, par milliers et milliers de tonnes, des amas de fossiles curieux qui sont triturés par les moulins et transformés en amendements agricoles.—*Élisée Reclus.*

The railway now passes through the tunnel of *Credo* and the defile of *Fort de l'Écluse* to—

597 k. Geneva, in Switzerland.

The line is continued from Bellegarde, through the French province of Haute-Savoie to the E. end of the Lake of Geneva by—

602 k. (from Paris) *Annemasse*, only 7 k. from Geneva at the junction with the line from Annecy. See ch. vii.

Annemasse is near the foot of the limestone range of *Le Salève*, conspicuous in all views from Geneva. It is an ascent of 1½ hrs. to the summit of the *Petit-Salève* by Mornex, and rather further to that of *Le Grand-Salève* by Mornex and Monnetier.

It is 64 k. from Geneva by Annemasse to the beautiful valley of *Sixt* (Hotel and pension), a delightful centre for excursions.

[The road to Chamonix passes (19 k. from Geneva) *Contamines-sur-Arve*, where the xiv. c. church belonged to a priory and was founded by Gui de Faucigny, Bishop of Geneva, in 1083. At 27 k. the road reaches the pretty little town of—

*Bonneville* (Hotel: *de la Couronne*), whence the *Môle* and the *Brezon* may be ascended. A column bears a statue of Charles Felix, King of Sardinia. The old château is used as a prison. A picturesque gorge of the Arve is passed at ( $42\frac{1}{2}$  k.) *Cluses* (Hotel: *National*). At 53 k., near *Oex*, the *Cascade de Nant* or *d'Arpenaz* is seen on the l. *Sallenches* (59 k. Hotel: *Bellevue*) has beautiful mountain views, especially of Mont Blanc in the sunset; a rude footpath leads hence in 9 hrs. to Sixt. At 67 k. is *Port-sur-le-Bon-Nant* (Hotel: *des Alpes*—where a table d'hôte awaits the arrival of the diligence), only 10 min. from the *Baths of S. Gervais*, in a deep gorge (Hotel: *de l'Établissement*). From *Pont Pélissier* (76 k.) there is one of the finest views of Mont Blanc. Hence the new road ascends to (86 k.) Chamonix by easier gradations than the old road; which diverges at S. Martin, near Sallenches, and passes through (71 k.) *Servoz* (Hotel: *des Gorges de la Diosaz*). The gorges of *La Diosaz* are worth visiting.

*Chamonix* or *Le Prieuré* (Hotels: *Grand*; *Saussure*; *Royal*; *de l'Union*; *de Londres*; *du Mont-Blanc*; *des Alpes*, etc.), a large village, chiefly inhabited by guides and sellers of objects in horn and crystal, is crowded in the summer and almost deserted in the winter months. A monument has been erected by the Alpine Club to Jacques Balmat, who first scaled Mont Blanc. Chamonix is by no means a picturesque place, and is chiefly resorted to as a centre for mountain excursions. The guides so completely possess the village, that it is difficult to get away from them, even for a short walk in the valley, or to the *Source of the Arveyron* at the foot of the *Mer de Glace*. The most ordinary tourists will visit *Le Montenvers* ( $2\frac{1}{2}$  hrs. ascent, 2 hrs. descent), an Alpine pasture with a very striking view over the *Mer de Glace*.

'Le plus beau glacier, le plus vaste et en même temps le plus étudié est la fameuse Mer de Glace, qui se meut avec une rapidité moyenne de 100 mètres par an, et dont les molécules mettent par conséquent un siècle et demi pour descendre des névés supérieurs à l'arche terminale qui donne naissance à l'Arveiron. Les noms de Saussure, de Rendu, de Forbes, de Tyndall restent à jamais associés à celui de ce glacier; c'est une des localités classiques dans l'histoire de la géographie.'—*Élisée Reclus*.

'La surface du glacier, vue de Montenvers, ressemble à celle d'une mer qui aurait été subitement gelée, non pas dans le moment de la tempête, mais à l'instant où le vent s'est calmé, et où les vagues, quoique très-hautes, sont emoussées et arrondies. Ces grandes ondes sont à peu près parallèles à la longueur du glacier, et elles sont coupées par des crevasses transversales, qui paraissent bleues dans leur intérieur, tandis que la glace semble blanche à sa surface extérieur. . . . Quand on est au milieu du glacier, les ondes paraissent des montagnes et leurs intervalles semblent être des vallées entre ces montagnes. Il faut d'ailleurs parcourir un peu le glacier pour voir ses beaux accidents, ses larges et profondes crevasses, ses grandes cavernes, ses lacs remplis de la plus belle eau renfermée dans les murs transparents de couleur d'aiguë-marine, ses ruisseaux d'une eau vive et claire qui coulent dans des canaux de glace et qui viennent se précipiter et former des cascades dans des abîmes de glace.'

—*De Saussure.*

The other principal excursions from Chamonix are: (1) *Le Jardin* ( $7\frac{1}{2}$  hrs. to go,  $6\frac{1}{2}$  to return; guide, 12 fr.), reached from Montenvers, where it is possible to sleep. The path across the glacier is narrow, but only dangerous in wet weather. The Jardin is a rock in the glacier, covered in the late summer with turf and flowers, and walled in by moraine. It is possible to return by *Le Chapeau* (guide, if the excursion is thus prolonged, 15 fr.), a flower-covered height at the foot of the *Aiguille de Bochart*. (2) *La Flégère* ( $2\frac{1}{2}$  hrs. ascent, 5 hrs. altogether; guide, 6 fr.; mule, 6 fr.), a height on the opposite side of the valley of Chamonix, facing the Mer de Glace, with a magnificent view of the chain of Mont Blanc. (3) The *Glacier des Bossons*, descending the valley of Chamonix (3 hrs. altogether; guide, 3 fr.) (4) *Le Brevent* ( $4\frac{1}{2}$  hrs. ascent,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  descent; guide, 8 fr. to 10 fr.), a fatiguing walk, which has a splendid view of the valley of Chamonix and the chain of Mont Blanc. (5) *Le Glacier d'Argentière* ( $7\frac{1}{2}$  hrs. altogether; guide, 8 fr. to 12 fr.), in the direction of Martigny.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> The excursions from Chamonix, though lying within the limits of France, are so usually looked upon as part of a Swiss tour, that they are given here as briefly as possible, and without illustrations.

The *Ascent of Mont Blanc* (17 hrs. in the ascent, 8 hrs. descent; guide, 100 fr.), 4,810 mèt. in height, is usually made from Chamonix. The mountain was first ascended in 1786, by Jacques Balmat and Dr. Paccard. The ascent usually occupies two days, the night being spent at the little cabins (one for travellers, the other for guides) under the isolated rocks called the *Grands-Mulets*.

A rude carriage-road leads from Chamonix to Martigny ( $8\frac{1}{2}$  hrs., guide useless) by the pass of the *Tête Noire*, passing halfway the *Hôtel de la Barberine*, with a waterfall near it. Near the gallery called *La Roche Percée* is the *Hôtel de la Tête Noire*, whence it is 3 hrs. to Martigny in Switzerland. Pedestrians may prefer the route from Chamonix to Martigny by the *Col de Balme* (mule, 12 fr.; guide, unnecessary, 12 fr.), on account of its beautiful views.

Courmayeur may be reached from Chamonix by the fatiguing and sometimes dangerous pass of the *Col du Géant* (16 hrs.; guide to Courmayeur, 50 fr., or to the Col only, returning to Chamonix, 40 fr.) An easier and more usual way is that by the *Col de Voza*; *Contamines*; and the *Châlets de Nant-Borrand* ( $8\frac{1}{2}$  hrs. from Chamonix), where travellers usually sleep. Thence it is a steep ascent of  $3\frac{1}{2}$  hrs. to the *Col de Bonhomme*, after which the traveller passes the *Col des Fours*, the *Châlet des Mottets* (a miserable sleeping-place), and the *Col de la Seigne* on the Italian frontier. The view is fine of the desolate *Allée-Blanche*, bordered by glaciers. It is 7 hours from Mottets to Courmayeur. This excursion is not worth while except in very fine weather, or to those who admire savage and somewhat dreary mountain scenery; but the view of Mont Blanc from Courmayeur itself is one of the finest in Europe, and the Val d'Aosta beyond is unspeakably lovely.]

632 k. *Thonon* (Hotels: *Grand*; *de l'Europe*), beautifully situated above the Lake of Geneva, with a fine view from its upper terrace. In the direction of Geneva are the ruins of the two (x.c.) châteaux of *Les Allinges*. An xi.c. chapel has been restored, in which S. François de Sales



celebrated mass when he undertook the conversion of the Protestants of Chablais.

[A mule path leads from Thonon to Martigny by the *Col de l'Abondance* (12½ hrs.) and (30 k.) the church of *Notre Dame de l'Abondance*, which belonged to an Augustinian abbey (xii. c. and xiii. c.), of which there are some remains. In the church are xv. c. torch-holders, xv. c. reliquaries, and an abbot's seat of xvi. c. A post-road connects Thonon with (42 k.) Bonneville. See p. 300.]

Just beyond Thonon, near the hamlet of *Concise*, are the remains of the *Chartreuse de Ripaille*; founded, after his abdication in 1434, by Amédée VIII., Duc de Savoie, who lived here till 1439, when he was elected Pope as Felix V. by the Council of Basle. But, as the Emperor refused to recognise him, he abdicated in 1449 in favour of Nicolas V., and returned to reside at Ripaille, as cardinal bishop of Geneva, till his death in 1451.

'Au bord de cette mer où s'égarèrent mes yeux,  
Ripaille, je te vois, O bizarre Amédée !  
Est-il vrai que, dans ces beaux lieux  
Des soins et des grandeurs écartant toute idée  
Tu vécus en vrai sage, en vrai voluptueux,  
Et que, lassé bientôt de ton doux ermitage,  
Tu voulus être pape, et cessas d'être sage.'—*Voltaire*.

641 k. *Évian-les-Bains* (Hotels: *des Bains*; *Grand*; *Fonbonne*; *de la Paix*, etc.), famous for its sulphuric mineral waters, which are much frequented; though, to protect them from the bise, which blows furiously on this side of the water, the houses are mostly built without any view of the lake. At *Neuvecelle*, an enormous chestnut may be visited.

652 k. *Meillerie*, where the boat of Byron and Shelley was driven on the rocks by a storm in 1816. Clarens and Chillon are seen on the opposite shore.

658 k. *S. Gingolph* (Hotels : *du Lion d'Or* ; *de la Poste*), a pretty spot on the Swiss frontier.

664 k. *Le Bouvaret*, on the main line from Geneva to Martigny and Sion, etc.

## CHAPTER VII.

PARIS AND MÂCON TO THE MONT CENIS. THE LAC DE BOURGET, AIX-LES-BAINS (ANNECY), CHAM-BÉRY (THE GRANDE CHARTREUSE). IN AIN AND HAUTE-SAVOIE.

440 k. (from Paris) *Mâcon*. See ch. i.

478 k. *Bourg-en-Bresse*. See ch. vi.

497 k. *Pont d'Ain*. The château is used as a hospice for aged priests of the diocese of Belley.

502 k. *Ambronay*, 2 k. from the station, has the ruins of a Benedictine abbey, founded ix. c. The church, which has a triple nave and a tower, contains the marble tomb of an abbot. The cloisters remain, and a staircase of *temp.* Louis XIII.

509 k. *Ambérieu-en-Bugey* (a junction and buffet).

[A line from Ambérieu to (52 k.) Lyon passes (13 k.) *Méximieux*, where the château, often rebuilt, dates from xi. c., and (26 k.) *Montluel*, with a ruined castle of 1096 (chapel of 1289).]

520 k. *S. Rambert*, has some obscure remains of the château of *Cornillon*, destroyed by order of Henri IV. Beyond S. Rambert the valley of the Albarine narrows to a gorge, and the line is often picturesque.

547 k. *Virieu-le-Grand*, has some small remains of a

château, which claims to be the place where Honoré d'Urfé wrote his *Astrée*.

[A branch line runs S. to (57 k) *S. André à-Gaz*, on the line from Lyon to Chambéry, by—

15 k. *Belley* (Hotel: *Key*), which has a *Cathedral* of S. Jean-Baptiste, founded in the fifth century, and often rebuilt since. The choir is of 1413, but the rest of the church was rebuilt in 1864, and has all the feebleness of modern architecture. Lamartine was educated at the *Collège* of Belley. In the *Évêché*, Bishop Camus, appointed in his twenty-fourth year at the solicitation of Henri IV., received the frequent visits of S. François de Sales, who was his intimate friend.]

559 k. *Culoz* (junction and buffet). A line leads hence N.W. to join the line from Paris to Geneva at Bellegarde (see ch. vi.) There is a carriage road from Culoz to Annecy by the picturesque *Val de Fier*. After passing the station of *Châtillon*, the line to Chambéry runs along the E. shore of the beautiful *Lac de Bourget*. On the opposite shore is seen the abbey of Hautecombe, and, above it, the mountain peak of the Dent-du-Chat.

‘Le lac du Bourget est une vaste coupe de montagnes tout ébréchée, où brille, à sept ou huit cents pieds au-dessus de la Méditerranée, une goutte d’eau bleue comme ne l’est aucune eau dans le monde. Vu du haut de la Dent-du-Chat, ce lac est là comme une turquoise égarée. Cette jolie goutte d’eau a neuf lieues de contour, et dans certains endroits près de cinq cents pieds de profondeur. Être là dans une barque au milieu de cette nappe par un beau ciel, n’entendre que le bruit des rames, ne voir à l’horizon que des montagnes nuageuses, admirer les neiges étincelantes de la Maurienne française, passer tour à tour à des blocs de granit vêtus de velours par des fougères ou par des arbustes nains, à de riantes collines; d’un côté le désert, de l’autre une riche nature : un pauvre assistant au dîner d’un riche; ces harmonies et ces discordances composent un spectacle où tout



est grand, où tout est petit. L'aspect des montagnes change les conditions de l'optique et de la perspective ; un sapin de cent pieds vous semble un roseau, de larges vallées vous apparaissent étroites autant que des sentiers. Ce lac est le seul où l'on puisse faire une confidence de cœur à cœur. On y pense et on y aime. En aucun endroit vous ne rencontreriez une plus belle entente entre l'eau, le ciel, les montagnes et la terre. Il s'y trouve des baumes pour toutes les crises de la vie. Ce lieu garde le secret des douleurs, il les console, les amoindrit, et jette dans l'amour je ne sais quoi de grave, de recueilli, qui rend la passion plus profonde, plus pure. Un baiser s'y agrandit. Mais c'est surtout le lac des souvenirs ; il les favorise en leur donnant la teinte de ses ondes, miroir où tout vient se refléchir.'—Balzac, '*La Peau de Chagrin*.'

583 k. *Aix-les-Bains* (Hotels : *de l'Europe*—excellent ; *Venat* ; *de l'Univers* ; *Grand*. Minor hotels and pensions innumerable. Carriages by tariff—expensive). Aix, greatly frequented for its sulphuric waters, especially efficacious for rheumatism, is exceedingly pretty during the summer months and dreary in the extreme during winter. Near the baths is a small *Roman Arch*, erected by Lucius Pompeius Campanus in iv. c., and supposed to have been intended for a family tomb, with eight niches to contain the funeral urns. In the garden of the presbytery close by are some small remains of a *Temple of Diana*. Under the Pension Chabert is an octagonal Roman bath. The xvi. c. *Château* is now used as Hôtel de Ville and Post-office.

10 min. by omnibus from Aix are the sulphuric baths of *Marlioz*. 10 min. on foot will lead to the hill of *Tresserve*, rich in vegetation ; and 40 min. to the *Château de Bonport*, close to the lake.

'Ce donjon est tellement enfoui, du côté de la terre, sous les châtaigniers de Tresserve, du côté du lac, dans les replis profonds d'une anse abritée des flots, qu'on a peine à l'apercevoir,

soit en marchant sur la colline, soit en naviguant sur la petite mer du Bourget. Une terrasse couverte de quelques figuiers sépare le château de la plage de sable fin où viennent continuellement mourir, caresser, lécher et balbutier les petites langues bleues des vagues.—*Lamartine*.

[Visitors can either embark at the *Port de Puer* or the *Port de Cornin* for Hautecombe. The former is the shorter voyage. The excursion occupies about 4 hrs. : boat, 9 fr.

‘À gauche, le Mont-du-Chat dresse pendant deux lieues, contre le ciel, une ligne haute, sombre, uniforme, sans ondulations à son sommet. On dirait un rempart immense nivelé par le cordeau. À peine, à son extrémité orientale, deux ou trois dents aiguës de rochers gris interrompent la monotonie géométrique de sa forme et rappellent au regard que ce n’est pas une main d’homme, mais la main de Dieu, qui a pu jouer avec ces masses. Vers Chambéry, les pieds du Mont du Chat s’étendent avec une certaine mollesse dans la plaine. Ils forment, en descendant, quelques marches et quelques coteaux, revêtus de sapins, de noyers, de châtaigniers enlacés de vignes grimpantes. A travers cette végétation touffue et presque sauvage, on voit blanchir de loin en loin des maisons de campagne, surgir les hauts clochers de pauvres villages ou noircir les vieilles tours des châteaux crénelés d’un autre âge. Plus bas, la plaine, qui fut autrefois un vaste lac, conserve les creux, les rives dentelées, les caps avancés de son ancienne forme. Seulement on y voit ondoyer, au lieu des eaux, les vagues vertes ou jaunes des peupliers, des prairies, des moissons. Quelques plateaux un peu plus élevés, et qui furent autrefois des îles, se renflent au milieu de cette vallée marécageuse. Ils portent des maisons couvertes de chaume et noyées sous les branches. Au delà de ce bassin desséché, le Mont du Chat, plus nu, plus roide et plus âpre, plonge à pic ses pieds de roche dans un lac plus beau que le firmament où il plonge sa tête. Ce lac est profondément encaissé du côté de la France. Du côté de la Savoie, au contraire, il s’insinue sans obstacle dans les anses et dans de petits golfes entre les coteaux couverts de bois, de treillis de vignes hautes, de figuiers qui trempent leurs feuilles dans ses eaux. Il va mourir à perte de vue au pied des rochers

de Châtillon ; ses rochers s'ouvrent pour laisser s'écouler le trop plein du lac dans le Rhône. L'abbaye de Hautecombe, tombeau des princes de la maison de Savoie, s'élève sur un contrefort de granit au N. et jette l'ombre de ses vastes cloîtres sur les eaux du lac. Abrité tout le jour du soleil par la muraille du Mont du Chat, cet édifice rappelle, par l'obscurité qui l'environne, la nuit éternelle dont il est le seuil pour ces princes descendus du trône dans ses caveaux. Seulement, le soir, un rayon de soleil couchant le frappe et se reverbère un moment sur ses murs, comme pour montrer le port de la vie aux hommes à la fin du jour. Quelques barques de pêcheurs sans voiles glissent silencieusement sur les eaux profondes, sous les falaises de la montagne. La vétusté de leurs bordages les fait confondre par leur couleur avec la teinte sombre des rochers. Des aigles aux plumes grisâtres planent sans cesse au-dessus des rochers et des barques comme pour disputer leur proie aux filets, ou pour fondre sur les oiseaux pêcheurs qui suivent le sillage de ces bateaux le long du bord.'  
—*Lamartine.*

The Cistercian *Abbey of Hautecombe* was founded by S. Bernard under Count Amédée III. in 1125 or 1135, and from that time became the burial-place of the House of Savoie. It was secularised in 1792, when the French entered Savoie, and sold as national property to private individuals, who established a china-factory there. In 1824 King Charles Félix repurchased Hautecombe, and both church and monastery have been since restored. The flamboyant *Church* is entered by a kind of vestibule called *Chapelle Royale* or *Chapelle de Belley*, containing the tomb of Claude d'Estavaye, bishop of Belley, abbot commendatory of Hautecombe, and founder of this chapel. The other tombs are for the most part only reproductions of those destroyed at the Revolution. Making the round of the church we may notice—

*R. of Nave.* Cenotaph of Louis II., Baron de Vaud, and that of Amédée VII., the Red Count.

*R. Side Aisle.* Statue of Charles-Félix by Benoît Cacciatore. Cenotaphs of Amédée V. and his daughter Agnes. Cenotaphs of the princesses Beatrix and Yolande. Cenotaph of Humbert III. near the door to the cloister.

*R. Transept.* Statue of the Bienheureux Humbert, by Albertoni. Mausoleum of Count Pierre. Cenotaph of Louis I., baron de Vaud.

*Sanctuary.* Tomb of Boniface de Savoie, Archbishop of Canterbury, son of Count Thomas, *ob.* 1270. Under the organ the tomb of Count Aimon and Yolande de Montferrat.

*L. Transept.* Chapel of S. Joseph over the sepulchral vault of the princes of Savoie. Cenotaph of Amédée IV.

*L. Aisle.* Cenotaph of Anne Germaine de Zaehringen. Chapel of S. Félix, over the vault of Humbert, Comte de Romont. Cenotaphs of Thomas II. and Sibylle de Beauge, first wife of Amédée V. Cenotaphs of Marguerite de Savoie and Amédée VI., and a marble group of Queen Marie Christine protecting the arts and succouring the poor.

*L. of Nave.* Cenotaph of Philippe II. and Thomas I.

*Chapelle de Belley.* Tombs of Charles Félix (1831) and Marie Christine (1849).

The *Cloister* is partly xvi. c.

About 1 k. from the monastery is the intermittent spring called *Fontaine des Merveilles*.

Other short water-excursions from Aix may be made to the *Château de Bordeau* (1 hr.), to the château and village of *Bourget* (40 min. by water, 2 hrs. by carriage). The church belonged to a Cluniac priory, of which a gallery of the cloister remains, dating from the middle of xv. c., when it was rebuilt by Prior Odon de Luyrieux, who has sprinkled it with his arms. It is an excursion of 6 hrs. in a carriage to the curious cavern of the *Grotte de Bange*, containing a lake. It takes 40 min. in a carriage to reach the beautifully situated church of *Mouxy*, from which it is an ascent of 1 hr. to the top of the *Rocher S. Victor*, whence there is a fine view.]

[The descent of the Rhône from Aix to (142 k.) Lyon occupies 8 hrs. (the ascent 13 hrs.) and is not worth while as regards scenery. The steamer may be left at (99 k.) the *Château de la Salette*, to visit (1½ k.) the curious cavern called *La Grotte de la Balme* (entrance 2 fr.), which has a church of xii. c. at its entrance.]

[A line leads N.E. from Aix to Annecy, passing—



6 k. *Grésy*, with a pretty little waterfall, the frequent object of a drive from Aix. A monument near the fall commemorates the sister of Maréchal Ney, Mme. le Broc, who perished here, by a false step, under the eyes of Queen Hortense (upon whom she was in attendance), June 10, 1813.

21 k. *Rumilly* (Rumilia), where many Roman antiquities have been found.

34 k. *Lovagny*. Tickets (1 fr.) must be taken at the Châlet des Gorges by those who wish to visit the curious bridge-galleries which enable them to see the extraordinary gorge called *Les Abîmes de Fier*, marvellous in its effects of light and shadow. Beyond, is an ascent to the *Château de Montrottier*, dating from XIV. c., though for the most part rebuilt XVI. c.

40 k. *Annecy* (Hotels: *d'Angleterre*—good; *de Verdun*—facing the lake; *de l'Aigle*; *de Savoie*), once a very interesting old town, now greatly modernised, though its high-roofed grey buildings, intersected by canals, and its castle on a height, are still very picturesque.

'Rousseau dit se rappeler tout cela avec volupté. L'étroite rue sous l'église (fermée alors en impasse) où logeait Mme. de Warens, entre l'évêque, les cordeliers et la maîtrise où il apprend la musique, c'est au vrai l'ancienne Savoie. Derrière la maison, le canal lourd et d'une eau peu limpide. Mais par-dessus il voyait la campagne "un peu de vert." Tous les germes de Rousseau sont là. Il y resta longtemps; mais surtout pendant six mois, il ne fit que les vingt pas qui séparaient les deux maisons, celle de *maman* et la Maîtrise. Tout lui est resté, dit-il, dans la même vivacité, la température de l'air, les beaux costumes des prêtres, le son des cloches, l'odeur, odeur bien mêlée sans doute et des fleurs et des canaux, des drogues pharmaceutiques qui faisait la charmante femme, et qu'elle le forçait de goûter. Là ce cantique entendu la nuit qui le fit tant songer. Là la rêveuse promenade qu'il fit un jour de dimanche, pendant qu'elle était à vêpres, pensant à elle, avec elle espérant vivre et mourir.'—*Michelet*.

It was at Annecy that the Catholic Bishop of Geneva took refuge in 1535, when driven out by the Protestants, though Annecy was not itself raised to an episcopal see till 1822.

In the Rue Royale (near the Hôtel d'Angleterre) is the modern *Church of the Visitation*, which contains the skeleton of S. François de Sales over the high-altar, and that of S. Jeanne Chantal over an altar on the r. S. François is said to have made seventy-two thousand converts. His devotional writings are childlike and poetical, yet with the observation and knowledge which a man so skilled in the *direction des âmes* must attain; they are also brimming with tenderness. But his sermons are dry dissertations, full of far-fetched allusions. Nevertheless, with S. Vincent de Paul, S. François, in a dreary age, used all his energies to give vitality to a withered church, insisting upon mental cultivation and moral reformation as indispensable for the priesthood. With S. Vincent, he founded schools, sent out missionaries, and, above all, gave to the world one of the greatest glories of Catholicism—the Sisters of Charity. He died 1622 and was canonised in 1665. The Mère Chantal survived till 1641, and was canonised by Clement XIV. in 1769.

The *Cathedral* has a romanesque tower, but the interior is XVIII. c.

Opposite the little port is a large round arch with a staircase leading to the church of S. Joseph, and close by, on l., is the very interesting *Mother-Convent of the Visitandines*, founded in 1610 by S. Jeanne Françoise de Chantal (daughter of the Président Benigne Fremiot, widow of Christophe de Rabutin, Baron de Chantal, grandmother of Mme. de Sévigné), commonly known as 'La Mère Chantal.' She abandoned her home and family—having been left a widow in her twenty-ninth year, and having spent the next ten years in the education of her children—in 1610 (stepping over the body of her only son, who had fallen at her feet) to follow the bidding of S. François de Sales as to a religious life. Holy and simple in character, the especial object of her writings and teaching was ever to inculcate tolerance, and to repress the sin of bearing false witness against a neighbour as prevalent amongst so-called 'religious persons.' At her death she left seventy-five houses of her Order in France and Savoy.

Visitors are admitted to a charming little succession of gardens, bright with flowers, in one of which a vine, of the time of Mère Chantal, remains embedded in a wall; and to

the little chapel with its original door, and its rock-pavement, joining the buildings of the first monastery, to which she was brought by S. François. There are still above 100 sisters in this Maison Mère of an educational order, and their school here has a great local celebrity.

By the Canal de Thioux, on the border of the lake, is the pretty little public garden.

'En 1865, par un beau mois de septembre, je me trouvai à Annecy, travaillant comme toujours. Mais vers les dix heures, la matinée était si douce, plus moyen de travailler. Nous allâmes nous asseoir au lac, sous un fort beau saule, vieux, qui rappelle que le jardin public était un marécage, en face de l'agréable et marécageux Albigny. Dans une brume légère qui gazait à demi l'horizon, nous regardions la petite île des cygnes, leurs plumes fugitives qui volaient, nageaient sur l'eau. Les coteaux simulaient un peu, tout autour, ceux de la Saône. À droite le petit palais qui fut de saint François de Sales; derrière, la ville, les églises, les convents, la Visitation (où rêva Mme. Guyon). Il y avait eu des orages, et quelques gouttes de pluie tombaient encore par moments. Un habitant d'Annecy, assis sur le même banc nous expliqua que le lac s'infilte assez loin sous la plaine. Il se verse lentement dans un affluent du Rhône. Jadis il était bien plus lent. Ses eaux paresseuses (tout au contraire de celles des lacs Suisses, qui montent l'été) baissent alors sensiblement, laissent ici et là des lagunes, des flaques mortes. Il y a, dit-on, peu de fièvre, mais quelque chose de doux, de mou qui vous ralentit. Et l'âme aussi ne se sent que trop de ces molles douceurs.'—*Michelet*.

Close to the public garden steamers leave twice daily (at 6 a.m. and 3 p.m.), to make the circuit of the *Lac d'Annecy*, in three hours. On Sundays there are extra boats at 11 a.m. and 2.15 p.m. (1st, 2 frs. 80 c.; 2nd, 1 fr. 80 c.) The steamer makes at once for the E. shore. On the hillside is *La Tour*, the house of Eugène Sue, where he died, August, 1857. At 21 min. we reach *Veyrier*, under the rocky mountain of the same name. Above its last houses, is the mouth of *La Grotte des Sarrazins*, containing the square stone called *La Table aux Fées*.

32 min. *Menthon*. On a height ( $1\frac{1}{2}$  k. from the lake), backed by rocky mountains, is the castle built by the seigneurs de Menthon, a Genevese family, dating from the ix. c., who bore the device—'Ante natum Christum, jam baronatus eram'—but the seigneurie was really only made a barony in 1486, and a countship early in the xvi. c. The donjon is xiii. c. This was the birthplace of S. Bernard de Menthon, founder of the hospices of the Great and Little S. Bernard. His room is now an oratory. The window is shown by which he is said to have escaped being forced into matrimony, and a rock which bears his footprints. Some remains of Roman baths have been found, in a vineyard below the village. The lake is crossed to (46 min.) *S. Jorioz* and recrossed to the *Roc de Chère*, a promontory which conceals half the lake from Annecy.

At 1 hr. is *Talloires* (Hotels: *de l'Abbaye*; *Bellevue*).

'Cette terre promise jouit presque en toute saison d'une température aussi douce que celle de Nice ou d'Hyères. La fraîcheur des ombrages, le bleu foncé des eaux, l'épanouissement précoce des floraisons rappellent les contrées méridionales les plus fortunées.'—*Eugène Sue*.

Close to the landing-place is the Benedictine *Priory* of Talloires, founded in ix. c. A single pillar remains of the church built by Ermengarde, wife of Rodolphe III., king of Burgundy, in xi. c. The buildings of the mediaeval priory are defended by xiii. c. towers, and were partly restored in xvii. c. Here S. François de Sales is believed to have announced his own death in a vision to the then prior, M. de Coëx, who was his intimate friend. The later priory buildings are now used as the *Hôtel de l'Abbaye*, which is very highly commended, and is a delightful spot in which to spend a few summer days. In the village is the house in which the famous chemist, Claude Louis, Comte de Berthollet (charged with the selection of the works of art to be transported to France after the Italian campaigns) was born, Nov. 9, 1798. On a rock above is the little pilgrimage church of the hermit S. Germain. A narrow strait of the lake is crossed to (1 hr. 11 min. from Annecy) *Duingt*, a modern château on a peninsula connected with the mainland by a narrow isthmus, occupying the site of a fortified manor-house, of which a circular



tower exists. Considerable remains of lake-habitations are visible near this, on the former islet of Roselet, now under water. Behind the château, on an eminence, are some small remains of a Carolingian donjon. This is a pretty, pleasant point for excursions. 1 k. W. is the *Château d'Héré*, of xv. c., restored. On the W. bank is *La Maladière*, a small country-house where Custine wrote his *Mémoires sur la Russie*; then the hamlet of *Brédonnaz*, for the capture of which by the Spanish troops in 1742, the court of Madrid amused Europe by celebrating a 'Te Deum.'

1 hr. 34 min. *Bout du Lac*, whence there is an omnibus to (2 k.) *Doussard*, at the entrance of the *Combe Noire*, famous for its bears. There are fine views of the mountain of *La Tournette* (2,357 mètr.), which is sometimes ascended from hence.

The *Mont Parmelan* (4 hrs. ascent, guide necessary) may be explored from Annecy.

[A post-road of 34 k. leads from Annecy to Bonneville, passing *La Bornalla*, a defile of the Fier, and (14 k.) *Le Plot*, whence a road diverges E. to *Thorens*, the birthplace of S. François de Sales. A chapel marks the site of the room where the saint was born in 1567, in the old castle of the Sales family to the E. of the town, destroyed in 1630. The other château (de Thorens), which formerly belonged to the families of Compey and Sacconay, is still inhabited, and has the cross, mitre, breviary, and other relics of the saint. In the church of Thorens, S. François was consecrated bishop, Dec. 8, 1602.

'Pour lui, il fit vœu de se consacrer tout entier sans aucune réserve au service des âmes et de mourir pour elles, s'il était expédient. "Alors," dit-il, "Dieu m'ôta à moi-même pour me prendre à lui et me donner aux peuples, afin que je ne vécusse plus que pour lui et pour eux."—*Vie de S. François de Sales*.

Bernard, Baron de Thorens, youngest brother of S. François, was married to the eldest daughter of S. Jeanne Chantal, foundress of the Order of the Visitation, who was a frequent guest here.

At 26 k., the road to Bonneville passes *La Roche*, on the l. bank of the Foron, which retains a xii. c. tower of the earlier castle where the Countess Beatrix sustained a siege in 1179. *La Bénite Fontaine*, near the town, is a place of pilgrimage. S. François de Sales was sent as a student in his sixth year to the college of La Roche, which was only 7 k. from the Château de Sales, the residence of his father, M. de Boisy. He was removed two years later (1575) to the college of Annecy.]

[A line of 54 k. leads from Annecy to Annemasse, where tram-carriages for (7 k.) Geneva await the arrival of every train. Annemasse is a station on the line from Bellegarde to Le Bouvaret (see ch. vi.)]

After leaving Aix, the *Château de la Serraz* ( $1\frac{1}{2}$  hours' drive from Aix), with an old gateway, may be seen on l.

597 k. *Chambéry* (Hotels: *d'Angleterre*; *Impérial*; *Royal*; *du Mont Blanc*; *de l'Union*; *des Alpes*; *de la Couronne*), the ancient capital of Savoie, is worth lingering an hour or two to visit in summer weather; in winter it often suffers from the floods of the furious Leysse. The principal feature of the place is the old *Château*, now the governor's residence, which was founded in 1232, but often restored. One great machicolated tower remains of the ancient building. Close by is *La Sainte-Chapelle*, a gothic building with a renaissance porch.

The (archiepiscopal) *Cathedral*, begun in xiv. c. and finished 1430, is in the centre of the town. Its gothic porch is of 1506. R. of the nave is the tomb of the President Favre; in the r. aisle of choir that of Archbishop Billiet, 1873. The crypt dates at least from xi. c. During the Revolution the church was used for the national assembly of the Allobroges. The large fountain in the boulevards bears a statue of General de Boigne (1830), a

native benefactor. Joseph and Xavier le Maistre, and the historian Lanfrey, were natives of Chambéry.

‘L’étrange ville de Chambéry, avec ses toits d’ardoise sombre sans reflets, encadrés de fer-blanc brillant, comme une exhibition de linceuls noirs semés de larmes d’argent. Les montagnes à forme fantastique qui la dominant, le bruit des torrents qui le



AT CHAMBERY.

traversent, ses vieux édifices, ses ceintures d’arbres séculaires, tout cela s’agitait sur moi comme dans un rêve.’—*George Sand, ‘Mademoiselle de Quintinie.’*

Pretty points for walks in the environs are the *Cascades de Jacob* (30 min.), following the Lyon road as far as a pyramid

in honour of a visit from the king of Sardinia, and then turning l. The *Chapelle S. Saturnin* (1 hr. 15 min.), by the Aix road to the quarries of Lemène; then turning r., *Le Bout du Monde* (1 hr.), leaving the Turin road to r.



ROUTE TO THE GRANDE CHARTREUSE.

passing the village of Leyse and following the gorge of the Doria. At 1 hr. 20 min., by carriage, are the mineral springs of *Challes* (Hotels: *Château de Challes*; *de France*, etc.). 30 min. from Chambéry is *Les Charmettes*, where Rousseau resided with Mme. de Warens.



‘Entre deux coteaux élevés est un petit vallon N. et S., au fond duquel coule une rigole entre des cailloux et des arbres. Le long de ce vallon, à mi-côté, sont quelques maisons éparses, fort agréables pour quiconque aime un asile un peu sauvage et retiré. . . . La maison (des Charmettes) était très-logeable : au-devant, un jardin en terrasse, une vigne au-dessus, un verger au-dessous ; vis-à-vis, un petit bois de châtaigniers, une fontaine à portée ; plus haut, dans la montagne, des prés pour l’entretien du bétail : enfin tout ce qu’il fallait pour le petit ménage champêtre que nous voulions y établir. Autant que je puis me rappeler les temps et les dates, nous en primes possession vers la fin de l’été de 1736. J’étais transporté le premier jour que nous y couchâmes.’—*Rousseau*, ‘*Confessions*.’

‘Pour celui qui s’est figuré les Charmettes comme un rustique manoir tirant tout son charme des simples et puissants attraits de la nature qui l’entoure, et tout son lustre de l’homme qui l’habita, il n’a point à dédompter, et nulle part mieux que sous ces ombrages il ne rencontrera l’ombre de Rousseau. Tout y est en accord avec cette simplicité champêtre, avec cette heureuse vie des champs que lui-même a tant aimée et qu’il a su faire aimer aux autres. Toutefois, si le château de Ferney, avec ses terrasses, ses vastes allées, ses bassins de marbre, ses riches tentures, ses portraits de reines et de princes, rappelle à merveille le vieillard philosophe, épicurien, courtisan, et gentilhomme, la mesure des Charmettes, si solitaire, si agreste, si retirée, rappelle Rousseau, célèbre déjà et persécuté, qui rebroussait avec un si sincère amour vers l’obscurité tranquille de ses premiers ans, plutôt qu’elle ne reporte au temps même où, jeune et inconnu, l’enfant de Genève y coulait en paix d’oisives journées.’—*Toepffer*.

[It is from Chambéry that most travellers will make the exceedingly interesting excursion to the Grande Chartreuse, which on the S. side is approached from Voiron (see ch. x.) There is a diligence from Chambéry to S. Laurent du Pont, within a walk of the monastery. The road passes—

6 k. l. the *Cascade de Couz*, rather spoiled by a recent fall of rock.

‘Rien de plus frais et de plus suave que l’arrangement naturel

de cette cascabelle. La brisure de rochers d'où elle s'élance est proportionnée à son élévation, et les blocs où elle disparaît un instant, pour s'en échapper en plusieurs courants agités sont jetés là dans un désordre en même temps hardi et gracieux. Il y a des entassements qui forment des arches moussues où l'eau tournoie et bouillonne avec des bruits charmants et un mouvement dont la fougue est plutôt joie que colère. Partout sur ces beaux rochers mouillés fleurit cette petite plante rose, l'érine alpestre, qui se tasse et se presse à la pierre, en lutte contre l'eau, avec la coquetterie des êtres délicats d'aspect qui ont l'organisation forte.'—*George Sand*, '*Mademoiselle de Quintinie*.'

From (16 k.) *S. Jean de Couz*, the road winds down between rocks and woods to a gallery, whence we descend to—

23 k. *Les Echelles*. The Grande Chartreuse is visible on the l. in descending to—

29 k. *S. Laurent du Pont* (Hotels: *des Princes; du Nord; de l'Europe*). Carriages for the day to (12 k.) the Grande Chartreuse—for a family, 5 fr. each person; for one or two persons, 10 fr. Mules, 8 fr. and 2 fr. pourboire. Guides (quite uncalled-for), 2 fr. and 2 fr. 50 c. All these prices are doubled for those who stay at the monastery above 2 hrs.

*S. Laurent* was almost entirely destroyed by fire in 1854, but rebuilt, with its church, by the generosity of the Carthusians. To reach the Grande Chartreuse (less than 3 hrs. on foot) one must follow the l. bank of the torrent *Guiers-Mort*, which is said to have ceased to flow for a whole year in the XII. c., and to have reappeared after a solemn procession of the monks. Near the liqueur manufactory of *Fourvoirie* (forata via), the Guiers falls in a little cascade, and the rock is pierced by the monks to allow the road to pass through the narrow gorge. Formerly there was a gate here, which protected the approach, and was opened by a porter.

'Through Alpine meadows soft-suffused  
With rain, where thick the crocus blows,  
Past the dark forges long disused,  
The mule-track from *S. Laurent* goes.  
The bridge is cross'd, and slow we ride,  
Through forest, up the mountain-side.'

*Matthew Arnold.*

A steep and beautiful ascent leads up the l. bank of the Guiers, till the stream is crossed by the *Pont de S. Bruno*, above which the ruined *Pont Pérant* is seen. A short distance beyond the bridge we pass the ruins of the *Fort d'Oeillette*, built to defend the defile against the Huguenots,



ASCENT TO THE GRANDE CHARTREUSE.

‘ Je ne m’attendais pas au majestueux spectacle offert par cette route, où je ne sais quel pouvoir surhumain se montre à chaque pas. Ces rochers suspendus, ces précipices, ces torrents qui font entendre une voix dans le silence, cette solitude bornée par de hautes montagnes et néanmoins sans bornes, cet asile où de l’homme il ne parvient que sa curiosité stérile, cette sauvage

horreur tempérée par les plus pittoresques créations de la nature, ces sapins millénaires et ces plantes d'un jour, tout cela rend grave.'—Balzac, '*Le Médecin de Campagne*.'

Still ascending, and leaving the new *Pont de S. Pierre* to the r., the road emerges from the forest within view of the Convent.



LA GRANDE CHARTREUSE.

Male visitors are received in the convent and given a sleeping cell for two nights ; a longer visit requires the express permission of the Superior. The convent is shown four times daily, at 8 and 10 a.m., and at 1 and 4 p.m. The déjeuner is at 8.30 ; there are two dinners—at 11.30 and at 2 ; and two suppers—at 6 and at 8. The price asked for food and rooms is most moderate ; visitors usually purchase some of the medals, photographs, or the liqueur



of the monks. Ladies are not allowed to enter the monastery and are received in a separate building called the *Infirmierie*, where two sisters attend to their wants.

The Grande Chartreuse was the most important of the many institutions of the famous S. Bruno. Born at Cologne, *c.* 1035, he had taken orders at an early age, and soon became famous as a religious teacher. To avoid the temptations which threatened him with his proposed elevation to the archbishopric of Reims, he embraced monastic life, and fled from the world with six companions—Landuin, Étienne de Bourg, Étienne de Die, Hugues, André, and Guérin—to the solitude of the Alps of Dauphiné. Here they built their first hermitage of timber, on the site now occupied by the chapel of S. Bruno. A little later, the intercession of S. Hugues, bishop of Grenoble, obtained for them a concession of the surrounding lands, and they erected a church dedicated to the Virgin and S. John Baptist, on the site now occupied by Notre Dame de Casalibus, near which S. Hugues soon afterwards built a monastery for them. S. Bruno, summoned to Italy to assist Pope Urban II. by his councils in 1088, was detained there till his death in 1101, but left rules for the guidance of the Chartreuse with the prior Landuin, who became his successor. In 1133 the monastery of S. Hugues was destroyed by a landslip, and the then abbot, Guignes le Vénérable, transferred the convent to its present site. The buildings were reconstructed in the XIII. c., and of this time a great part of the cloister remains. The present convent only dates from a rebuilding after a fire in 1676. The monks now possess nothing but the use of the buildings and the surrounding pasturage, but derive from the sale of the liqueurs which they manufacture a large revenue, which they expend on widespread charities to the surrounding district, being the first to help in all times of need.

Queen Victoria entered the Grande Chartreuse by the ancient rule of the Church, which is still in force, that a bishop<sup>1</sup> or a reigning sovereign may visit any house of cloistered monks and nuns.

<sup>1</sup> Pius IX. erased the ancient English sees from the bishoprics of Christendom.

The vast buildings of *La Grande Chartreuse* are approached by a gateway, which the traveller Abraham Goelnitz, who came here early in the xvii. c., describes as loaded with heads of bears, killed in the neighbouring forests. Crossing a square court, steps lead to a corridor communicating with all the different galleries of the building. On the r. and l. are the refectory, and the halls (now used for strangers), called *de France*, *d'Italie*, *de Bourgogne*, *d'Allemagne*, because they were formerly appropriated to the Carthusian priors of those countries when they came hither to conferences. At the end of the corridor are the library and residence of the Superior of the Order. There are four chapels in the convent. The principal one, in which the services are performed, is lofty, but rigidly plain in its decorations. Visitors are only admitted to a gallery; many feel a curiosity to attend the midnight service, when there is nothing to see, as the church is almost dark, and nothing to hear but a continuous monotonous chaunt. The service at 7 a.m. is more impressive. In the chapter-house, the Superiors of every Carthusian convent in Europe, except England (which appointed a deputy) were obliged to meet every three years and discuss the affairs of the Order. The Superiors of the Grande Chartreuse, though chosen by its monks from their own number, are always Generals of the Order, and many of these are represented on its walls; the chapter-house also contains a statue of S. Bruno and a series of pictures (after Lesueur) of the events of his life. An adjoining room has a curious picture, representing all the cardinals, bishops, and dignitaries, who have sprung from the Order, seated in rows. In one of the minor chapels—*des Morts*—with a Death's-head, by Canova, over the entrance, are the bones of the monks overwhelmed in the original convent by an avalanche in 1133. The Chapelle S. Louis, built by Louis XIII., after a three days' visit at the convent, is rich in marbles and silver. The monks are of two kinds. The *pères* have each a separate set of apartments, almost a little house (cell), and a garden of their own. Their food is passed to them through a wicket, and they never leave their own abodes, except for service. On Sundays and saints' days they dine together without speech (for which especial permission from the Superior is required), a reader

reading all the while from a stone pulpit. On Thursdays they are allowed two hours' conversation, whilst taking a walk (spaciment) within the precincts of the desert. The *frères* are employed in the work of the house, external and internal. They are divided into *frères donnés*, who are as yet bound by no vows, and *frères convers*, who have taken vows. The first wear a brown robe on ordinary days, a white robe on festas; the second are always dressed like the *pères*, in white woollen robes, with long beards and shaven heads. Meat is interdicted at the convent (and is not given to strangers). In Lent and every Friday the monks live upon vegetables and oil. The monks rise at 5.30 a.m., and meet in church at 5.45 for prime; at 8 for tierce; at 10 for sexte; at 11 for the grace following a repast; at 12.15 for none; at 2.45 for vespers; at 6 they say complines in their cells. At 6.30 they go to bed, to get up at 11 for matins of the *office de la Sainte Vierge* in their cells, after which they meet in the church at 11.45 for *matins de l'office* and laudes.

'Cette retraite ne profite qu'à l'homme et n'est qu'un long suicide; je ne la condamne pas. Si l'Église a ouvert ces tombes, elles sont sans doute nécessaires à quelques chrétiens tout à fait inutiles au monde.'—Balzac, '*Le Médecin de Campagne*.'

The monks distil two kinds of liqueur from the aromatic plants of their mountains: one is *Élixir*, rather of medicinal intention; the other *Chartreuse*, of which there are three kinds—green, yellow, and white; the green being the strongest, the white the weakest. *Boules d'Acier* are a mineral paste, useful for cuts and bruises.

A mountain path leads N. from the convent to (20 min.) the chapel of *Notre Dame de Casalibus* (Our Lady of Huts), marking the spot where the Bishop of Grenoble built the first (wooden) monastery of S. Bruno, destroyed fifty years after by an avalanche, in which seven monks perished. A little higher is the *Chapel of S. Bruno*, perched on a huge fragment of rock, where S. Bruno established his first hermitage. The spring, from which

he drank, still bursts forth below the rock, and supplies the convent. The existing chapel was built by Jacques de Marly in 1640. The end wall is that of the primitive oratory, and the



CHAPEL OF *S. BRUNO*, LA GRANDE CHARTREUSE.

original altar of grey marble, consecrated by *S. Hugues*, has been discovered.

‘There are certain scenes that would awe an atheist into belief without the help of other argument. I am well persuaded



S. Bruno was a man of no common genius to choose such a place for his retirement.'—Gray's '*Letters*.'

Continuing from the chapel, mountaineers may ascend *Le Grand Som* (6,740 ft.).

It is 18 k. from S. Laurent to Voiron (see ch. X.). It is seven hours' walk from the convent to the station of S. Robert (ch. x.) by the *Cols-de-la-Cochette* and *de-la-Charmette*. A carriage road (7½ hrs.) leads from the convent to Grenoble by the hamlet of *Le Sappey*.]

After leaving Chambéry, the views of the snowy mountain peaks are often striking in winter. The principal mountains on r. are Blanchenet, Joigny, the Col de Frêne, le Granier, and the chain above the l. bank of the Isère.

607 k. *Les Marches*, on the road from Chambéry to Grenoble, which passes (9 k.) *Fort Barraux*, the principal fortress of France against Piedmont before the annexation of Savoie.

611 k. *Montmélian*, at the foot of a rocky eminence, which once bore a fortress, destroyed by the French in the XVIII. c. In the neighbouring village of *Arbin* are some small Roman remains.

[For the line from Montmélian to (63 k.) Grenoble see ch. x.]

621 k. *S. Pierre d'Albigny*. The ruined castle of *Miolans* is seen on the r. of the Isère.

[A line turns N.E. to (24 k.) *Albertville* (Hotels: *Million*; *des Balances*). The town on the r. bank of the Isère was formerly called l'Hôpital; that on the l. bank, still known as *Conflans*, was formerly walled and preserves two of its ancient gates. The *Château Rouge* (XII. c.) was a residence of the

Princes of Savoie. A great number of mountain roads converge at Albertville. 27 k. S.E. is *Moûtiers-en-Tarentaise* (Hotel: *de la Couronne*), which takes its name from a monastery founded in the v. c. It is the seat of a bishopric, but the cathedral is of little interest. Near Moûtiers are the bathing-places of *Salins* and (6 k.) *Brides-les-Bains* (Hotel: *des Thermes*), the latter very prettily situated. Easily visited from hence is the fine scenery of the gorge of the Doron, near *Champagny*. There are diligences from Moûtiers to (27 k.) *Bourg S. Maurice* and the *Petit S. Bernard* by (15 k.) *Aime*, the ancient Axuma, where considerable Roman remains have been found. A building shown as a temple is, however, an xi. c. romanesque church of *S. Martin*, constructed with Roman materials. It contains a crypt of the ix. c. and frescoes of xiii. c. A subterranean passage connects it with the tower of *S. Sigismond*. In the parish church is a curious equestrian statue of S. Martin. The female costume here is very picturesque.]

625 k. *Chamousset*. The railway now turns from the valley of the Isère into the wilder and narrower valley of the Arc, by which it enters the Maurienne.

633 k. *Aiguebelle*, where is a triumphal arch in honour of Charles-Félix. The scenery now becomes wilder.

‘Les monts de deux côtés se dressent ; leurs flancs deviennent perpendiculaires ; leurs sommets stériles commencent à présenter quelques glaciers : des torrents se précipitent et font grossir l’Arche qui court follement. Au milieu de ce tumulte des eaux, on remarque une cascade légère qui tombe avec une grâce infinie sous un rideau de saules.’—*Chateaubriand*, ‘*Mémoires d’Outre Tombe*.’

The rock of *Le Châtel*, bearing the ruined tower of Berold-de-Saxe, first Comte de Maurienne, is passed (l.) just before reaching—

666 k. *S. Jean-de-Maurienne* (Hotels : *de l’Europe* ; *des Voyageurs*), the ancient capital of the Maurienne, the largest

and most sterile province of the duchy of Savoie, which retains some towers from its ancient fortifications. Here Montaigne was enraptured with the trout and the excellent wine. The *Cathedral* of S. Jean is partly xv. c. In the portico are a model and a relief for the intended tomb of Count Humbert, founder of the House of Savoie. The nave is xii. c., with side aisles and chapels added xv. c. In the r. aisle is a remarkable fresco, on the tomb of S. Ayrald de Bourgogne, bishop of Maurienne. In the l. aisle is the tomb of Oger de Conflans, 1441. The chapel of S. Thecla contains the tombs of the bishops Amédée de Montmayeur and Savin de Florano. The choir has fine xv. c. stallwork, by Mochet of Geneva. The reliquary of S. Jean Baptiste is said to contain three fingers of the saint, brought hither by S. Thecla, in the beginning of vi. c. The tomb of Bishop de Lambert, of 1591, the carved wooden pulpit, and a rich alabaster ciborium, deserve attention. The crypt is of great antiquity. The cloister, of 1452, has gothic arcades in alabaster. The Chapelle Notre Dame has a porch of xiii. c., and apses attributed to vi. c.

678 k. *S. Michel* (Hotels: *de la Poste*; *de l'Union*), a most dreary village at the foot of the first ascent to the Mont Cenis.

693 k. *Modane* (custom house, buffet, change of carriages). The old road from hence over the mountains passes (26 k.) *Lans-le-Bourg*, and (38 k.) the *Hospice du Mont Cenis*, founded by Louis le Débonnaire. The existing buildings, in which Pius VII. was lodged, are due to Napoléon I. Near the hospice is a little lake, frozen for more than six months of the year, but abounding in

salmon-trout. The descent into Italy is by the interesting town of Susa.

Soon after leaving Modane, the railway line passes through the *Tunnel des Alpes*, which is 12,234 mètr. in length, though travellers often fail to distinguish it from any other tunnel.



## CHAPTER VIII.

*LYON TO MARSEILLES. THE CENTRAL RAILWAY TO THE SOUTH, BY VIENNE, VALENCE, MONTE LIMAR (GRIGNAN), ORANGE (VAISON), AVIGNON (CARPENTRAS, VAUCLUSE, CAVAILLON, APT), ARLES (LES BAUX, S. GILLES, LES SAINTES MARIES) AND S. CHAMAS. IN DRÔME AND VAUCLUSE.*

THE blueness of the shadows, the crumbling brown hills, the dusty plains, the long flat lines of the buildings, the round-tiled and overhanging roofs, and the many-pronged mulberry trees raised for the Lyon silk, now remind us that we are approaching the south. The railway follows the course of the Rhône, which Michelet describes as 'un taureau furieux descendu des Alpes et qui court à la mer.'

'Cette vallée du Rhône est de beaucoup la principale voie historique de la France. . . . S'il est vrai, d'une manière générale, que la civilisation a marché de l'est à l'ouest, en suivant de rivage en rivage le bassin de la Méditerranée, il n'est pas moins vrai que la ligne presque droite formée par le cours du Rhône et de son grand tributaire, la Saône, a forcé l'histoire, pour ainsi dire, à faire en cet endroit un brusque détour vers le nord afin de gagner par le chemin le plus facile le versant océanique du continent. Dans la stricte acceptation du mot l'étroite vallée du Rhône est devenue un grand chemin des nations; Arles, Vienne, Lyon, Châlon, Dijon en sont les étapes.  
—*Élisée Reclus.*

543 k. (from Paris) *Vienne* (Hotels : *du Nord ; de la Poste*), on the l. bank of the Rhône, at the mouth of the Gers, and backed by Mont Salomon, which is crowned by



GATEWAY LEADING TO THE THEATRE, VIENNE.

a ruined castle. It is only from its lovely position that the place still merits the name of *Pulchra* given to it in ancient times. Turning r. from the station, we soon reach, in the centre of the town, the principal relic of Roman occupation—the beautiful corinthian *Temple of*

*Augustus and Livia.* In the façade there are six fluted columns, and five on each side ; the cella is only adorned with pilasters. Around are some fragments of the ancient forum. From the neighbouring Place de l'Hôtel de Ville



CATHEDRAL OF S. MAURICE, VIENNE.

(adorned with a statue, 1870, of Ponsard, the dramatic poet—born 1814—who was a native of Vienne) the Rue de la Vieille Halle leads to the remains of the *Théâtre*, with a very fine arched gateway.

The *Cathedral of S. Maurice* is of xi. c. to xvi. c. The rugged, weather-beaten façade is impressive from being

approached by a broad staircase, and is of rich flamboyant, flanked by two square towers. The balustrade of the enclosure at the head of the steps is very beautiful. The interior was much injured by the Protestants (1562), and is ruined by modern painting. The first eight pillars and the crypt date from the beginning of the XII. c. On r. of the altar is the tomb of Archbishop de Montmorin. This, the tomb of Oswald de la Tour d'Auvergne, and an altar, are by Michelangelo Slodtz. By the W. door are white marble sarcophagi of S. Léonien of the v. c. and S. Aymard of the XIII. c. The cloister has been destroyed.

*S. André-le-Bas*, once the chapel of the Duke of Burgundy, at the N. end of the town, is of XII. c., with a noble romanesque tower. Its mutilated cloister serves as a courtyard. *S. Pierre*, at the S. of the town, has a curious XII. c. tower, the arches of the second storey being enclosed in trefoils. The side walls are in reticulated work, and many beautiful Roman fragments are built into the material. The lions from the portal are in a neighbouring street. Near *S. André-le-Haut* is a good renaissance portal. Beyond the station is the Boulevard Pyramide, containing the Roman obelisk called *L'Aiguille*, being the spina of a circus, of which some remains have been found.

It was to Vienne that Pontius Pilate was banished after his return to Rome from Judaea. The town was the cradle of Western Christianity, and in the v. c. it became the capital of the first kingdom of Burgundy: afterwards it was a residence of the Dauphins.

On the other side of the river (where a suspension-



bridge connects Vienne with S. Colombe) is the *Tour de Mauconseil*, built by Philippe de Valois.

[A road of 67 k. leads from Vienne to Romans by (39 k.) *Hauterives*, on the Galaure. After mounting the course of the stream for 7 k., we reach the mediaeval town of *Grand-Serre*,



L'AIGUILLE, VIENNE.

which retains its ancient walls, with their five gates, and a church of XIII. c., with a beautiful side-chapel of XV. c.]

564 k. *Le Péage-de-Roussillon*. 20 min. walk distant is the fine renaissance château of *Roussillon*, whence, in 1564, Charles IX. issued the decree which made the year begin on Jan. 1.

572 k. *S. Rambert*, whence the line to Grenoble branches off on l. See ch. x.

585 k. *S. Vallier*, at the confluence of the Galaure and Rhône. The restored *Château de Chabrillan* belonged to Diane de Poitiers, and has gardens designed by Le Nôtre.



TOURNON FROM TAIN.

319 k. *Tain*, opposite Tournon (see ch. ix.), of which there is a picturesque view. Near this are the hills of *L'Ermitage*, famous for their vineyards, where a single hectare sells for 60,000 fr. The vines of *L'Ermitage* are said to have been brought from Chiraz by a hermit.

[There is a road of 18 k. from Tain to Romans. At the hamlet of Curson a road diverges from this to l., and reaches at 12 k. *S. Donat*, which took its ancient name of Jovinziacum from a temple of Jupiter. So it was called, till Corbus, 20th bishop

of Grenoble, flying with his clergy from the Saracens, brought hither the relics of S. Donat, in whose honour he built a church on the site of the pagan temple. The collegiate church is of xi. c., and there are remains of a romanesque chapel and cloister. The château of the kings of Burgundy, built x. c. and xi. c., is now the mairie. Guillaume Auguier, the troubadour of the xii. c., was a native of S. Donat.

A road which turns off r. from Curson descends the valley of the Veauune and crosses the Isère in front of (5 k.) *Châteauneuf d'Isère*, overhung by a hill which bears the ruins of a castle. This was the birthplace of S. Hugues, bishop of Grenoble, who founded the Grande Chartreuse in 1086. Below the castle, near the river, is the *Fontaine de S. Hugues*, said to be efficacious for weak eyes.]

618 k. *Valence* (Hotels: *du Louvre et de la Poste*—good; *de la Croix d'Or*; *Armand*; *de France*), the capital of the Département de la Drôme, situated within 6 k. of the meeting of the Isère and the Rhône, and once the capital of the Comté de Valentinois, which Louis XII. gave to Caesar Borgia in 1498, and of which Diane de Poitiers became duchess in 1518. The romanesque *Cathedral of S. Apollinaire* dates from 1095, when it was consecrated by Urban II. on his way to preach the crusade at Clermont. The porch and tower were rebuilt in 1861; the vaulting was renewed in xvii. c. The long narrow romanesque arches round the apse have the effect of Moorish architecture. In the choir are a bust and relief by Canova, in memory of Pius VI., who died at Valence, in the Hôtel du Gouvernement, as the prisoner of the French, in 1799. He was buried at Rome, but his heart is here. To the N. of the church stands the curious detached classical sepulchral chapel of the Mistral family, erected in 1548, and called *Le Pendentif*. It is square

in form, consisting of four piers, with pillars at the angles and arches between them.

In La Grande Rue, near the Place des Clercs, behind the cathedral, is a beautiful gothic house—*La Maison des Têtes*, built 1531. It takes its name from the medallion busts in the exquisitely vaulted corridor leading to its inner court. In the Rue de la Peyrollerie, near Le Pendentif, is a fine renaissance portal, with sculptures representing the Judgment of Paris. On the promenade is a statue of General Championnet. Hence, and in all views from Valence, the great feature is the castellated crag of Crussol, on the opposite side of the Rhône. The castle, the finest on the Rhône, is best seen from S. Péray ( $2\frac{1}{2}$  k.). It is reached by a suspension bridge, ornamented with an arch in honour of Pius VI. The Church of *S. Pierre du Bourg*, N. of the town, where S. Apollinaris was buried, has a fine wooden altar-piece. The rocks here begin to have the burnt aspect familiar in Sicily and Greece.

‘À Valence  
Le midi commence,’

is a popular saying.

Valence, having a tolerable hotel, is a good centre for the excursion to Cruas, Rochemaure and Viviers, and for that to Die.

[For the line from Valence to Grenoble see ch. x.]

The line crosses the river Drôme, which gives a name to the department. It was at the Pont de la Drôme that the Duc d'Angoulême vainly tried to oppose the advance of Napoléon, after his escape from Elba.



635 k. *Livron* (Buffet), with a ruined castle. Hence the lines to Nismes and Privas diverge r. See ch. ix.

[A line leads E. from Livron to Die, up the dreary valley of the Drôme, a mountain torrent with a vast stony bed, and only



CATHEDRAL PORCH, DIE.

a reminiscence of water in summer. When the vines are in leaf they give character to this district, which is hideous during the winter months. The line passes—

18 k. *Crest*, with a very fine square mediaeval tower, which has often served as a State prison for Protestants and political offenders.

34 k. *Saillans*, a brown village amid dreary brown hills, at the entrance of the colourless gorge of the Drôme.

The ruined castle of *S. Croix* is passed on l. before reaching—  
47 k. *Pontaix*.

58 k. *Die* (Hotels : *S. Dominique ; des Alpes*), an ancient town of the Voconces, which, under the Roman dominion, received the name of *Dea Augusta Vocontorum*, from being especially dedicated to Cybele. From the III. c. it was the seat of a bishopric: now, ravaged in turn by Protestants and Catholics, it is only a relic of its former self, and standing forlorn on its dismal wind-stricken plateau, would have no interest but for its Roman remains. A Roman arch, embedded in later buildings, forms the gate—*Porte S. Pierre*—by which the town is entered from the station. Hence the *Rue Ville Neuve* leads r. to the former *Cathedral*, which has a magnificent W. porch, supported by four granite columns, which evidently belonged to a temple, probably of Cybele. A number of other fragments are scattered through the town; there is a fine capital in the little square near the church. On S. of the cathedral is a good xv. c. house. The E. gate of the town—the *Porte S. Marcel*—at the end of the principal street on l., is a Roman triumphal arch, to which towers have been added in the middle-ages.

‘*La clairette de Die est la piquette de S. Péray mousseux.*’—*Braine.*]

651 k. *Lachamp-Condillac*. There is an omnibus to (4 k.) *Condillac*, a mineral bathing-place, with a château of XII. c. and xv. c. On the l. of the line we pass *Savasse*, with a ruined castle and romanesque church.

662 k. *Montélimar* (Hotels : *de la Poste*—best, with a pleasant garden; *des Princes*) on the Roubion,—the Roman *Acusio*. In this pleasant neighbourhood Rousseau took walks ‘*dans le plus beau pays, et sous le plus beau ciel du monde.*’<sup>1</sup> The town takes its present name from the powerful family of Adhemar—*Montilium Aymari*. The

<sup>1</sup> *Confessions.*

ancient walls are gone, but their four gates remain. The *Château*, now a prison, has good romanesque windows in the upper storey, and remains of a romanesque chapel of *S. Agatha*. On the N. is the xix. c. *Tour de Narbonne*

At Montélimar we enter *Provence*, the dry, sun-burnt



PORTE S. MARCEL, DIE.

land of the troubadours. Here the peasants still dance the *farandola*. The branch which we now constantly see hanging out of a house where wine is for sale, recalls the proverb, 'Good wine needs no bush.' On Christmas Day the cottagers will always light three candles, and place, in three little pots, seeds of wheat to sprout, to the growth of which a mysterious interest attaches. On that day also they carry

the branch of a fruit-tree three times round their rooms, and then burn it.

[There is a diligence from Montélimar to (28 k.) the manufacturing town of *Dieulefit* (Hotel: *Chauvet*), at the foot of a mountain called the *Dio-Graz*, where the torrent Jabron has its source. Excursions may be made to the pilgrimage chapel on the top of *Mont S. Maurice*, and to (4 k.) the cave called *Baume de S. Jaumes*. At *Comps*, 6 k. from Dieulefit, in the gorge of the Jabron, is a curious church (like those at Montmajour and Venasque)—its square form supporting a cupola, and having an apse *en cul de four* on each side.]

[There is a diligence from Montélimar to Nyons by (27 k.) *Taulignan*, a curious old town, with a fortified gateway. Another road to Nyons passes Grignan. (At Mayse, 18 k. from Montélimar, one may diverge into the forest of *Aiguebelle*, to the valley of *Valhonnête*, where Othon de Frisigne, Abbot of Morimond, built a Cistercian monastery in 1137. It had formerly 400 monks, but was almost ruined in the wars of religion, and at the Revolution only two monks remained. In 1846 the ruins were purchased and restored by the Trappists, and the church and cloister are good specimens of XII. c.)]

[But the chief excursion to be made from Montélimar, and one which is well worth while, is that to *Grignan* (24 k., carriage 12 fr.) The place is always picturesque, and will delight an artist; but its present owner, Mme. Faure, only allows the château to be visited on *Thursdays*, from 1 to 5, also never on fête and market days.

The drive is uninteresting till the mountain range has been crossed by a long series of zig-zags. Then the noble pile of Grignan rises grandly against a range of pink and grey hills, with a fainter blue distance of striking outline, beyond a foreground of cork woods, in which the masses of green are embossed upon the pale landscape, as in the pictures of Titian and Poussin. The lavender, thyme, and sweet basil with which the ground is covered will recall the letters of Mme. de Sévigné:—

‘Les perdreaux sont nourris de thyme, de marjolaine, et de tout ce qui fait le parfum de nos sachets; j’en dis autant de nos caillies grasses, et des tourterelles, toutes parfaites aussi.



'Hélas ! nous avons cent fois plus froid ici qu'à Paris. Nous sommes exposés à tous les vents. C'est le vent du midi, c'est la bise, c'est le diable. Nous ne respirons que de la neige. Nos montagnes sont charmantes dans leur excès d'horreur. Je souhaite tous les jours un peintre pour bien représenter l'étendue de toutes ces épouvantables beautés.'—*Mme. de Sévigné.*

There is a clean, humble little inn (Hotel : *des Bons Enfants*) at Grignan, quite possible for an artist who does not mind roughing it considerably. The rugged street of the little town leads



GRIGNAN.

up to the (restored) gate of the castle. Its associations chiefly centre around the time when, in 1669, the Comte de Grignan, of the family of Adhemar de Monteuil, married the only and idolised daughter of Mme. de Sévigné. He had two wives before : 'Il en change comme de carrosse,' said Bussy Rabutin. Mme. de Sévigné was frequently with her daughter at Grignan, and died here of the small-pox, April 17, 1676, aged 71, neither son nor daughter being with her at the time. The family of Adhemar having become extinct, the château was sold in the middle of the XVIII. c. to that of De Muy, whence it was resold to that of Faure.

When the castle gates are opened, we are admitted to a delightful little terraced garden, in front of the grand renaissance

façade of the 'château vraiment royale,' as Mme. de Sévigné calls it, entirely gutted and the inside burnt at the Revolution, but, as far as it remains, retaining all its ornaments in their first freshness. The magnificent vases are also uninjured. A tiny garden niched into a lower terrace of the rock, was that especially



GATE OF GRIGNAN.

appropriated to Mme. de Sévigné. The terrace, an immense balustraded stone platform, beneath which (as in the Château de Biron) is the parish church, is the grandest in France, and can be reached by carriages. The Castle of Chassenay is the chief feature in the wide view: Valréas is concealed by the hills. Nothing but the walls remains of the chapel. A beautiful Tuscan portal at the foot of one of the E. towers leads to the E. façade,

called *façade des Prélats*, built by Mansart. Here, in the great hall called *Salle du Roi*, we still see a splendid chimney-piece decorated with the arms and motto of Adhemar. Hence we reach the chamber of Mme. de Sévigné, in which she died; a very large room, of which the richly wrought chimney-piece, by Puget, remains in the ruins. On the N. were the kitchen and offices. A XVI. c. gallery, in the W. façade, was formerly filled with full-length portraits of the house of Adhemar.

‘Tout, dans cette splendide demeure était fait pour nourrir l’orgueil du maître et lui donner une grande idée de lui-même. Tout semblait lui faire un devoir de soutenir son rang et de n’être pas au-dessous de la magnificence de ses aïeux. Il fallait, pour peupler ses grandes salles et animer cet immense château, que la compagnie y fût toujours nombreuse et brillante. Les maîtres et leur famille, avec leurs parents et leurs amis les plus intimes, les officiers, les gentilhommes, les pages attachés à la personne du gouverneur formaient déjà une société considérable, c’étaient quatre-vingts ou cent personnes établies à demeure, et qui ne quittaient le château. Joignez-y les invités qui viennent de toute la province ou des provinces voisines, et qui reçoivent une hospitalité fastueuse. Les amis ou les simples connaissances sont logés dans le château avec leurs gens ou leurs équipages. C’est une auberge qui ne désemplit jamais. Il faut dresser trois tables dans la grande galerie, et elles sont toujours pleines : voilà ce que Mme. de Sévigné appelle la cruelle et continuelle chère de Grignan, à laquelle aucune fortune ne pourrait résister. Après avoir nourri cette foule, il faut l’amuser ; on lui offre toute sorte de distractions, même l’opéra, et l’on met un certain orgueil de faire entendre les airs les plus récents de Lulli. Surtout on leur donne à jouer ; le jeu fut un des fléaux de cette société de grands seigneurs désœuvrés.’—*Gaston Boissier, ‘Mme. de Sévigné.’*

This royal abode was well suited to the haughty character of Mme. de Grignan, whom Bussy described as ‘cette femme de l’esprit, mais d’un esprit aigre, d’une gloire insupportable.’ ‘Madame, elle ne daignera pas regarder les pauvres femmes de Provence,’ said her husband in confidence to Mme. de Sévigné, when taking her home. Unfortunately, the letters which she is

known to have written twice a week from hence to her mother, when absent from her, have been destroyed.

Along one side of the garden, at the entrance, are the only rooms which are still habitable. Here is a small library, in which some of the old books of the Adhemars have been collected, and where portraits are shown of five illustrious generations—Mme. de Chantal, Mme. de Coulanges, Mme. de Sévigné (attributed to Mignard), Mme. de Grignan, and Mme. de Simiane (Pauline, second daughter of Mme. de Grignan)<sup>1</sup>, by *Largillières*. Here are also preserved the hangings of the bed of Mme. de Sévigné, said to have been presented to her by Louis XIV.

We must descend the stony path at the back of the château to visit the collegiate xvi. c. *Church of S. Sauveur*, which is beneath the great terrace. Its W. front has a beautiful rose-window. The Adhemar, Comtes de Grignan, repose beneath the altar. A small stone in the pavement of the chancel is inscribed, 'Cy git Marie de Rabutin-Chantal, Marquise de Sévigné, décédée le 18 Avril, 1696.' The grave was violated in 1793.

The Chapel of the *Hospice de S. Roch*, in the town, has a good picture of the Angels at the Sepulchre, by *Ann. Caracci*, taken from the chapel of the château. In the *Hôtel de Ville* may be seen the marriage register of the Marquis de Simiane with Pauline de Grignan, signed by her grandmother, Mme. de Sévigné, of whom there is a statue in the little square. An old gateway remains, surmounted by the *Tour de l'Horloge*.

A most attractive spot, 1 k. S.W. of the town, is the *Grotte de Rochecourbière*—caverned in the yellow rock and overhung by old cork-trees—whence Mme. de Sévigné dated several of her letters. The water of its little fountain has the happy reputation of rendering lovers faithful.]

[The road from Grignan to Nyons passes—

35 k. (from Montélimar) *Valréas*, a place dating from ix. c., with walls and towers of xv. c. In the centre of the town are the *Tour de l'Horloge*, the ruined *Château Robert*, and the parish church, of which the nave and apse are xii. c., the façade of the end of xiii. c. The S. portal has very curious sculptures, which apparently belonged to a more ancient building. The rich vest-

<sup>1</sup> The eldest daughter, Marie Blanche, took the veil at Aubenas, at fifteen.



ments and plate of the church were given by Cardinal Maury, Archbishop of Paris, whose father is buried near the W. door. The *Hôtel de Ville* was the old palace of Louis, Marquis de Simiane, who married Pauline de Grignan.

49 k. *Nyons* (Hotels: *du Louvre*; *des Voyageurs*), on the r. bank of the Aygues, is mentioned by Ptolemy as *Néomagus*. It is situated at the entrance of a defile, whence the cold wind, known as *Pontias*, always blows at night. Before the terrible winter of 1829, the place was enriched by its olives: the vineyards, which have replaced them, have been partially destroyed by the phylloxera. The outer walls are mostly destroyed, but there are still some traces of those which once separated the three divisions of the town, called *Forts*, *Halles*, and *Bourgs*. The bridge, of a single arch, is of xiv. c.; it rests, on S.E., upon the *Rocher de Guard*, which is crowned by the ruins of a citadel, demolished by order of Louis XIII. Its great tower, *Tour de Randanne*, was turned into a gothic chapel in 1863, and a statue of Notre-Dame de Bon-Secours erected on its summit, with very odd effect. The repulse of the troops of the Duc de Savoie, in 1692, by Philis de la Tour du Pin, the heroine of Nyons, is celebrated in local story.

The road from Nyons to (43 k.) Carpentras (diligence) passes (at 26 k.) *Malaucène*, picturesquely situated at the foot of Mont Ventoux. Near this is the curious *Chapelle du Groseau*, remnant of a monastery founded 684, ruined by the Saracens, and rebuilt xi. c., from the ruins of a palace which Clement V. had erected beside it. Close by are the picturesque *Source du Groseau*, and remains of an aqueduct.]

Leaving Montélimar, the railway crosses the Roubion. *Allan*, on l., is said to be the place where the first mulberry trees were planted in France. The old cathedral of Viviers (ch. ix.) is seen crowning a rock on the further bank of the Rhône.

671 k. *Châteauneuf-du-Rhône*, on the site of a town destroyed by the Saracens. Its ruins are still visible between the river and the village, which has a fortified gate

called *de Donzère*, and a house with curious sculptures. In the rocks on l. of the line is seen the cave called *Baume des Anges*.

676 k. *Donzère*, said to be the Aëria of Strabo, a town of the middle-ages, surrounding the ruins of a castle. S. Lambert, Abbot of Fontenelle, founded an abbey here in 678, which was destroyed by the Saracens and rebuilt by Louis le Débonnaire in 736. Only its church remains, with a XII. c. nave, a cupola at the cross, and a romanesque tower, which is crowned by a hexagonal spire.  $2\frac{1}{2}$  k. distant is the *Château de Belle-Eau*, at one time the residence of Archbishop Sibour.

683 k. *Pierrelatte*, named from a strange rock (petra-lata) which here rises abruptly from the plain, and which is supposed to have been brought hither by a giant, and once crowned by a castle.

5 k. N.E. is the village *La Garde-Adhémar*, which has a very curious romanesque church. It has apses both on E. and W., which is very unusual in France, aisles vaulted in a quarter of a circle, and a tower surrounded by two tiers of arches, and crowned by a stone spire. 2 k. E. of La Garde is the ruined chapel of *Le Val des Nymphes* of XII. c.

‘Divisée au trois travées à une seule nef et une seule abside, elle présente un choeur dont la voûte en coquille est effondrée aux deux tiers, mais orné d’un double rang d’arcatures ou arcades-fenêtres soutenues en bas par des pilastres rudentés, et en haut par des colonnes corinthiennes.’—*Lacroix*.

Between La Garde and the Val des Nymphes are some remains of the Roman *Tour Magne*.

[Omnibuses meet every train at Pierrelatte and (for 20 c.) take travellers across the plain to *S. Paul Trois Châteaux*, an excursion chiefly worth while to ecclesiologists,

S. Paul, the Roman colony of Augusta Tricastinorum, long continued to retain some importance from its bishopric, supposed to have been founded by the man born blind who was healed by the Saviour, and to have then taken the name of Restitutus. He is said to have arrived in Provence as a missionary, with Lazarus, Martha, and Mary Magdalen. The town derived its name of S. Paul from one of his successors, its bishop in iv. c. Devastated by Vandals and Saracens in ancient, and Protestants and Catholics in later times, S. Paul is now only a nest of narrow rugged streets, retaining their old walls and gates. The Roman remains are limited to some vestiges supposed to belong to an amphitheatre, and some columns against a wall. The former *Cathedral*, of xi. c. and xii. c., has a beautiful romanesque W. portal. Its apse is adorned by eight fluted columns. The nave, with a barrel roof, and its aisles, are of immense height. Under the last bays of the dark triforium, is a frieze of great magnificence. The pilasters which support the arches of the second and third bays are surmounted by twisted columns. There are some remains of frescoes on the walls, and of rude carvings behind the pulpit.

Following the straight road from the further gate of the town, and then turning r., we reach,  $2\frac{1}{4}$  k., the rock-built village of *S. Restitut*. The xii. c. church is exceedingly curious. Its porch recalls that of the cathedral of Avignon, but is richer and shallower. The interior is much like that of S. Paul, with the same twisted columns on the pilasters. Its W. bay, which has the appearance of a tower externally, is surmounted by a cupola, and is of two storeys. In the lower storey is the much venerated tomb of S. Restitut.

Behind the church is a good renaissance house, and there are several xv. c. houses in the village.]

691 k. *Lapalud*, has a xiii. c. church.

695 k. *Bollène-la-Croisière*. 4 k. E. (omnibus diligence to Nyons) is *Bollène*, on the site of a station on the Roman way of Agrippa, of which a remaining fragment is known as *lou camin ferra* (the iron way), or *la levado*. The xv. c. chapel of *Notre-Dame-de-Bonne-Aventure* is passed before

reaching Bollène, which is a well-preserved town of the middle-ages, retaining part of its xiv. c. walls and its winding streets. It formerly contained the *Priory of S. Martin*, of which the church only preserves its original companile and part of the apse. *La Tour*, which has a xv. c. tourelle, is partly Roman, as well as the *Maison Cardinale*. On an isolated hillock are the *Chapelle S. Blaize de Bauzon* (xi. c.) and some fragments of the *Château de Bauzon*. At *Barri* (5 k. N.) was one of the three towers which defended the country of the Tircastins, and a Gallo-Roman *castellum*.

[The road from Bollène to (7 k.) Suze-la-Rousse leaves to l. *Bouchet*, with an ancient abbey. In the church is a statue of Bertrand de Garrigues, recently beatified. *Suze-la-Rousse* is a curious mediaeval town, on the r. bank of the Lez. The château, built xvi. c. by the Comte de la Baume, and blown up in xvii. c., has been restored by M. des Isnards, and has a very stately aspect. On the terrace in front of it, Comte François de la Baume-Suze is said to have engaged in single combat with the terrible Baron des Adrets, and to have disarmed him. The four sides of the court are richly sculptured, and the staircase is magnificent. The famous Catholic commander, Comte de Suze, was born in the castle, whither Charles IX. and Catherine de Médicis came, to act in person as sponsors to one of his daughters.

We may also observe at Suze the renaissance *Presbytère* and the old church of *S. Torquat*. In the neighbourhood are the *Chapelle de S. Michel* and the ruined *Château de l'Estagnol*, attributed to the Templars. From its ruins, says local tradition, a golden goat emerges every night to drink at the Lez. If anyone makes their fortune in the country side, people say of him 'a trouva la cabri'—he has met the goat.

7 k. N.N.E. is a hill crowned by *Baume-de-Transit* (omnibus from Bollène station), with a remarkable romanesque church of four apses, like those of Montmajour and Comps, but here one of the apses was destroyed in xvii. c. to make way for a little nave. The central vault is only xv. c. There are the ruins here



of a château which belonged in turn to the Sire de Bernes, beheaded for treason under Louis XI., to the Sire de Pierrelatte, and to the father of Diane de Poitiers. The bridge over the Lez is said to have been built by Diane.]

704 k. *Mornas*: the castle, founded x. c., was dismantled in the Wars of Religion. Amongst the ruins is a roman-sque chapel, with a crypt. The village church is partly xii. c. This is the native place of Albert de Luynes, who excited the young Louis XIII. to throw off the yoke of Marie de Médicis and Concini, and afterwards himself governed despotically in the king's name. At Mornas was one of the toll-barriers of the Rhône, of bloody reputation during the religious wars, when the papal toll-gatherers at Avignon used to see two Protestant corpses pass, lashed on the same plank, with the inscription: 'O voi d'Avignone, lasciate passare questi mercanti, perchè han pagato il dazio a Mornas.'

707 k. *Piolenc*, an ancient town, of which the Cluniac *prieure château* is still inhabited by a religious Order.

714 k. *Orange* (Hotels: *de la Poste: du Commerce*), the ancient capital of the Cavares, which probably owed its name of Arausio to its position on the Arais. The town was much injured by the Visigoths, and afterwards by the Saracens, from whom it was retaken by Charlemagne and made a countship. In the xiii. c. it became the capital of a principality, and a university was established here. In 1622, Maurice of Nassau, Prince of Orange, completed the destruction of most of the antiquities to use their materials in rendering Orange one of the strongest fortresses in Europe; but Louis XIV., who had no patience with the existence of a little independent principality in the middle of his dominions, besieged and took it and ordered the

destruction of its fortifications in 1660, and in 1673 of its château. Orange, however, was only definitely incorporated with France by the treaty of Utrecht, 1713.

On the Lyon road, to the N. of the town, is the *Arc de Triomphe*. Its entire inscription is no longer legible, but



ORANGE.

enough remains to make some imagine that it was erected in honour of Tiberius, after his victory over the Gaulish chieftain Sacrovir, A.D. 21. Mérimée, however, considers that, like other Provençal arches, it was in honour of the victories gained by Marcus Aurelius in Germany. In the middle-ages, Raymond de Baux made the arch into a fortress, and it became incorporated into the residence of

the Princes of Orange, many of whose deeds are dated 'du Château de l'Arc.'

'Les trophées maritimes (ou plutôt fluviales, car ils rappellent probablement des combats sur le Danube), sont un chef-d'œuvre de composition. Les éperons de navire, les mâts, les antennes, les cordages sont entassés, avec une apparence de désordre, mais en réalité de manière à produire l'effet le plus pittoresque.'—*Prosper Mérimée*.



ARCH OF AUGUSTUS, ORANGE.

At the other end of the town the remains of the *Roman Theatre* rise like a fortress above the houses, its orange colour contrasting well with the blue sky. What we see is the façade forming the outer wall of the *scena*. It was spared by the Visigoths, and even by the Princes of Orange, who used it as a sort of advanced bastion to their castle on the height, to which it is attached. One may still see a sort of sentry-box built on the summit of the *scena* wall. Internally, the theatre was decorated with three ranges

of columns of marble or granite, one above the other. The façade is most simple. Three doors symmetrically disposed were used for the service of the building, and perhaps to admit part of the spectators. Above is an arcade surmounted by a cornice and a line of corbels. A second line of corbels nearer the summit is separated from the first by a gutter for carrying off the rain from the top, and the wall is crowned by a bold cornice. The six last corbels at each end of the upper line are pierced with holes, destined doubtless to receive the poles to which the canvas coverings of the scena were attached, but they were not used to the end, as it is apparent that the stage was covered by a sloping roof; the holes made to receive its supporting beams still remain. The whole building, but especially the upper part of the scena, bears evidence of its destruction by fire, for which this roof furnished admirable material. The steps on the side of the hill are, in a great measure, destroyed. A portico, which still partially exists, connected the theatre with a hippodrome, which may still be traced. As Addison says, the remains of this Roman theatre are worth the whole principality of Orange.

The former cathedral of *Notre Dame* was originally built by Liberius, prefect of the Gauls. It was ruined by the Barbarians, and rebuilt early in XII. c., but it was much injured by the Protestants, who demolished the vaulting and cloister. On the Place de l'Hôtel de Ville is a statue by Dulocle, 1846, of Raimbaud II., Comte d'Orange. On the Cours S. Martin is a statue of Comte de Gasparin, 1864.

[An excursion of 6 k. may be made to *Caderousse*, where there is a château of the Ducs de Grammont, visited by François I., Charles IX., and Henri III.]



[There is a diligence to Valréas. (The road leaves l. a bye-road to Suze-la-Rousse, which passes near the ruined castle and XII. c. church of *Castelas*, and [12 k.] a ruined tower and the XVIII. c. château of *Roche-gude*.) The main road passes (8 k.) *Sérignan*, where, in 1563, the Huguenots brutally massacred the population in the church, and afterwards the garrison of the château, which had belonged to Diane de Poitiers, and of which only a single tower remains. At 1 k. is the XI. c. *Chapelle S. Marcel*. Passing (24 k.) *Tulette*, where there was a Cluniac priory, and (29 k.) *Visan*, where there is a fine work of *Mignard* in the church, we reach (37 k.) Valréas. See p. 346.]

[Artists and archeologists will find it well worth while to make the excursion from Orange to Vaison. Carriage, for the day, 15 fr. A railway under discussion.

The road passes under the walls of (7 k.) *Camaret*, then crosses the wide plain called *Plan-de-Dieu*, with the picturesque jagged mountains of the *Pont de Vénise* (so called from the curious chasm to the W. of the chain), and Mont Ventoux on r., till it reaches the pretty valley of the *Ouvèze*.

26 k. *Vaison* (Hotel: *de Commerce*—a tolerable country inn), the ancient Vasio, is said to have been founded by the Greeks. It was one of the two capitals of the Voconces at the time of the invasion of the Romans, under whom it became one of the richest cities of the Narbonnaise. From the III. c. it was a bishopric, but its bishops were obliged to abandon it in the XII. c., when Raymond VI. (1195) built the fortress, and the Gallo-Roman town gave place to a new city, protected on one side by precipices, on the other by the *Ouvèze*. S. Rusticus was born at Vaison in 555. The only monument of Belus which exists in France was discovered at Vaison: it is now in the museum of S. Germain.

As we reach the site of the Gallo-Roman city on the r. bank of the *Ouvèze*, we pass on the l. the ancient *Cathedral*. It is a three-aisled basilica, ending in three apses, of which the central is enclosed in a square mass of masonry. It probably dates from the beginning of the X. c. On the r. of the choir is the square tower, with round-headed windows. The W. façade is merely a plain wall with romanesque

windows. The altar, brought from S. Quirin, is a white marble table, adorned with Byzantine foliage, and sustained by two composite columns. The font is an ancient altar. In the central apse is the former throne of the bishop, of marble, approached by three steps, the back exceedingly low. On r. of the church is the exceedingly beautiful restored *Cloister*, partly xi. c., used as a lapidary museum. On the N. wall is an inscription translated as urging the canons to bear with



VAISON.

patience the N. aspect of their cells.<sup>1</sup> The bishopric was suppressed in 1790.

Behind the cathedral, crossing a road and some fields, is the *Chapel of S. Quirin* (Sanctus Quirinus), a nave, with scarcely perceptible transepts, and an apse—triangular externally and circular within. The history of the church written by Anselme Boyer assigns its date to vi. c., or beginning of vii. c. Lenormant attributes at least the exterior of the apse to viii. c., but all authorities agree that the exterior at least must be earlier than the xi. c., though the interior may be a restoration of xii. c., when bishop Suares engraved the distich—

<sup>1</sup> See Prosper Mérimée.

‘Sancto Quiridio reparo venerabile templum,  
Ut mihi coelestem praeparet ipse thronum.’

Further, in the same direction, reached by a bye-road between gardens, against the N. side of the little hill *Puymin*, are the remains of a small *Roman Theatre*, where the statue of an athlete, now in the British Museum, was found. Beyond are two arches, of huge masonry. To the l. are some remains



BRIDGE OF VAISON.

of a Roman road, and the whole plain is littered with bricks, marble, and pottery. The modern town also is built with ancient materials.

Passing through the town on the r. bank, we find the ravine of the Ouvèze crossed at its narrowest point by a *Roman Bridge* of a single arch, connecting the original with the later city. An artist may find many admirable subjects at Vaison, where the castle on its overhanging rock recalls the backgrounds of many early Italian pictures.

A road leads from Vaison to (83 k.) *Serres* (see ch. x.) by (36 k.) *Mollans*, which retains its old walls and is built on a precipitous rock in the picturesque gorge of the Ouvèze. Its two châteaux were ruined under Louis XIII.]

722 k. *Courthèzon*, with ramparts, towers, and gates of XIV. c.



RAVINE OF VAISON.

728 k. *Bédarrides*. 6 k. W. is the ruined château of *Châteauneuf-Calcernier*, a residence of the Avignon popes.

732 k. *Sorgues*, where Urban V. built a palace, burnt by the Baron des Adrets. Here the line to Carpentras (see later) branches off.

742 k. *Avignon* (Hotels: *de l'Europe*—very good, but beware of damp beds; *de Louvre*; *S. Yves*). Avignon, now the capital of the Département de Vaucluse, was one of the principal cities of the Cavares at the time of the



Roman invasion. After the fall of the empire, Avenio belonged successively to Burgundians, Franks, and Visigoths. Twice taken by the Saracens, and twice delivered by Charles Martel, it submitted to the Carlovingians and became part of the kingdom of Arles and one of the principal towns of the marquisate of Provence. In the XII. c. it set up an independent commune, electing its own consuls, and surrounded itself with new walls and gates. Declaring for the Albigenses, it was taken by



AVIGNON.

Louis VIII. in 1226, though, in 1251, it fell again under the counts of Provence.

In 1305 Clement V. (Bertrand de Got) transferred the seat of the Holy See from Rome to Avignon, which Joanna, Queen of Naples and Provence, sold to Clement VI., nominally for 80,000 florins of gold (which were never paid), as the price of a dispensation enabling her to marry Louis de Taranto. Seven popes and two anti-popes succeeded at Avignon during 'the second captivity of Babylon,'—when, in the words of Petrarch, 'the popes kept the Church of Jesus Christ in a shameful exile,'—viz., Clement V. (1305-14);

John XXII. (1316-34); Benedict XII. (1334-42); Clement VI. (1342-52); Innocent VI. (1352-62); Urban V. (1362-70); Gregory XI. (1371-78); and the anti-popes, Clement VII. (Robert of Geneva, 1378-94), and Benedict XIII. (Pèter de Luna, 1394—1411). After the return of the popes to Rome, they continued to rule by a legate, then a vice-legate, at Avignon, till it was reunited to France, Sept. 14, 1791.

‘Qui n’a pas vu Avignon du temps des papes n’a rien vu. Pour la gaieté, la vie, l’animation, le train des fêtes, jamais une ville pareille. C’était du matin au soir des processions, des pèlerinages, des rues jonchées de fleurs, tapissées de hautes lisses, des arrivages de cardinaux par le Rhône, bannières au vent, galères pavoisées, les soldats du pape qui chantaient du Latin sur les places, les crécelles des frères quêteurs; puis, du haut en bas, des maisons qui se pressaient en bourdonnant autour du grand palais papal comme des abeilles autour de leur ruche; c’était encore le tic-tac des métiers à dentelles, le va-et-vient des navettes tissant d’or des chasubles, les petits marteaux des ciseleurs de burettes, les tables d’harmonie qu’on ajustait chez les luthiers, les cantiques des ourdisseuses;—par là-dessus le bruit des cloches, et toujours quelques tambourins qu’on entendait ronfler là-bas, du côté du pont. Car chez nous, quand le peuple est content, il faut qu’il danse, il faut qu’il danse, et comme en ce temps-là les rues de la ville étaient trop-étroites pour la farandole, fifres et tambourins se portaient sur le pont d’Avignon, au vent frais du Rhône, et jour et nuit l’on y dansait, l’on y dansait. . . . Ah l’heureux temps! l’heureuse ville! Des hallebardes qui ne coupaient pas; des prisons où l’on mettait le vin à rafraîchir! Jamais de disette; jamais de guerre!’—*Alphonse Daudet, ‘Lettres de mon moulin.’*

On Feb. 19, 1797, by the treaty of Tolentino, the pope renounced all rights over Avignon and the Comtât Venaissin in favour of the French Republic. Jourdan, who was then

at the head of the revolutionary party at Avignon, made short work of those who opposed the reunion, arresting them, allowing the whole of them to be massacred in prison, throwing them dead or half-dead into the tower called La Glacière, and pouring quick-lime upon them to stifle the cries of the survivors.

Scarcely anything remains of the ancient Avenio, except a few stones built into the walls and some mosaics in the Museum. The remains of the rule of the popes are magnificent. At Avignon the traveller will first feel himself in the south : its crenellated walls and machicolated towers rise from a country covered with olives, though laden with white dust and swept by a bitter mistral. This wind, the scourge of the country, is supposed to keep the town healthy. An old distich says :—

‘ Avenio ventosa,  
Cum vento fastidiosa,  
Sine vento venenosa.’

As in Spain, the shops are closed by a curtain, on which floats the name of the proprietor. Men, brown and tanned, walk with their jackets slung over their shoulders. In summer, numbers of the people sleep in the streets, the dwelling open to all the world.

The Hôtel de l'Europe is situated in the Place Crillon, close to the Port, which was of great importance before the construction of the railway, and in front of what was the Hôtel du Palais Royal, where the unfortunate Marshal Brune was murdered by the royalists (Aug. 2, 1815) and afterwards thrown into the river.

The exterior of the magnificent walls, begun by Innocent VI. (whose arms are seen near the Porte S. Michel), and finished by Urban V., is well worth examination.

In the xiv. c. there were seven gates: to these two others have been added. Dickens says:—

‘All the city lies baking in the sun, yet with an under-done-pie-crust, battlemented wall, that will never be brown, though it bake for centuries.’—*Pictures from Italy.*

‘Les mâchicoulis sont supportés par un rang de petites consoles d’un profil ravissant; les créneaux sont d’une régularité parfaite. . . . Le temps a donné à des pierres si égales, si bien pointes, d’un si beau poli, une teinte de feuille sèche, qui en augmente encore la beauté. C’est l’art de l’Italie avec ses charmes transporté tout à coup au milieu des Gaules.’—*Stendhal.*

Turning l. from the Hôtel de l’Europe, we soon reach the Place du Palais, overhung by the huge gothic *Palace of the Popes*, ‘la plus belle et la plus forte maison du monde,’ as Froissart calls it; which is rather the citadel of an Asiatic tyrant than the residence of a representative of the God of peace: nothing is constructed with a view to artistic effect, all is for security. The palace is one of the most perfect specimens in existence of xiv. c. military architecture. The N. part is the work of Benedict XII. (1336), who, since no pope liked inhabiting the palace of his predecessor, pulled down all that John XXII. had previously constructed; his architect is believed to have been Pierre Poisson de Mirepoix. Clement VI. (1349) built the principal façade and the lower buildings on S., and made the gardens on E. In 1364 Urban V.



cut the court of the palace out of the rock, built the E. wing, and added the *Tour des Anges* to the six towers already existing. In all these buildings, no regularity is observed ; the accidents of the ground have been the chief influence to guide their architects.

‘ L’intérieur du palais est aussi bien fortifié que l’extérieur. La



PAPAL PALACE, AVIGNON.

grande cour est dominée de tous côtés par des tours et de hautes courtines. Maître de la porte et de cette cour, l’assaillant n’a rien fait encore, c’est au nouveau siège qu’il lui faut entreprendre ; enfin toutes ces défenses emportées, reste une tour à forcer. La porte se brise, l’ennemi se précipite dans l’escalier, il va pénétrer dans l’appartement que le pape a choisi pour sa retraite. Tout d’un coup l’escalier se perd dans une muraille. Au-dessus une espèce de palier, où l’on ne peut monter que par une échelle, est garni de soldats, qui peuvent assommer un à un ceux qui déjà se croyaient vainqueurs.’—*Prosper Mérimée.*

The palace is now a barrack. The old halls are cut up and all their character destroyed; so are the two chapels, one above the other. In the *Salle du Consistoire* some frescoed figures of prophets still exist, and in the chapels in the Tour S. Jean—once hung with the Moorish standards taken in the battle of Tarifa, and sent by the king of Castille—some frescoes of the life of S. Martial, S. John Baptist, and S. John the Evangelist, by *Matteo da Viterbo*. The xiv. c. kitchen remains, shown as the place where the Inquisition (which had its seat, not here, but in the Dominican convent) roasted heretics!

‘Rôtir les gens sur une place publique ou dans une tour pour la plus grande gloire de Dieu est certes un triste moyen de les ramener dans la voie du salut; mais prendre une cuisine pour une rôtisserie d’humains est une méprise bien ridicule.’—*Viollet le Duc*.

The palace is, however, really connected with some of the worst atrocities of the Revolution, when (1790) sixty-one innocent citizens were thrown down the tower of the Glacière, and quicklime heaped upon their bodies.<sup>1</sup>

Below the palace wall the *Escalier du Pater* (because it had as many steps as there are words in the *Oraison dominicale*) leads to the cathedral of *Notre Dame des Doms*, a transition between Roman and mediaeval architecture, supposed to have been founded by S. Martha in honour of the still living Virgin, and which legend declares to have been visibly consecrated by Christ Himself on Oct. 8, 799. It was certainly built in the first centuries of Christianity on the ruins of a pagan temple, and rebuilt xii. c. The portal is most curious, but only a reminiscence of the antique;

<sup>1</sup> See Taine, *La Conquête Jacobine*.

its porch has a round arch between corinthian columns, supporting a triangular gable. Of the frescoes in this porch, by *Simone Memmi*, only some fragments remain. In front of the porch, a crucifix marks the platform where the popes used to stand to give their Easter benediction, as from the balcony of S. Peter's. The tower, surmounted by a modern image of the Virgin, was partially rebuilt in 1431. The interior is a basilica, restored at various times, the side chapel and apse being xiv. c. In the choir are a simple marble throne used by the popes, and the tomb of 'Le brave Crillon,' 1610, with an epitaph ending in—'Passenger, history will tell you the rest.' A hundred and fifty-seven cardinals and bishops were buried in the cathedral, but nothing remains of their monuments. Against the N. wall of a chapel on the l., which is the burial-place of the archbishops, is the canopied gothic tomb (with a comparatively modern statue) of Benedict XII. (Jacques Fournier, 1334-42), a judicious and wise reformer, rather too fond of wine. The splendid flamboyant tomb of John XXII. (Jacques d'Euse, 1316-34), which formerly stood in the centre of the nave, was the great ornament of the church, but 'il gênait les chanoines,' and it is now exiled to the antechamber of the sacristy. This was the worldly and avaricious pope, son of a shoemaker at Cahors, who kept his rival, the anti-pope Peter of Corbario, a prisoner for three years and a half in the papal palace, and who—the representative of apostolic poverty—left a treasure of eighteen millions of gold florins in specie, seven millions in plate and jewels.

'Yet this Pope—though besides his rapacity he was harsh,

relentless, a cruel persecutor, and betrayed his joy, not only at the discomfiture, but at the slaughter of his enemies—had great fame for piety as well as learning, arose every night to pray and to study, and every morning attended mass.'—*Milman*, 'Hist. of Latin Christianity.'

Near the tomb is a very ancient marble altar, in form a table, supported by five columns.

When the terrible mistral is not blowing, the little garden on the *Rocher des Doms* (or *des Seigneurs*), behind the cathedral, is very attractive with its striking views, on one side over the plain covered with olives and mulberries to the blue heights of Mont Ventoux and the mountain barriers beyond; on the other, over the river, and the ruined bridge 'bâti par le diable et S. Benizet,' to the castle of Villeneuve. A statue commemorates Jean Althen, a Persian, who risked the penalty of death in bringing the seeds of the madder-plant to Marseilles, and who thus founded *le commerce de la garance*, which has long brought in fifteen million francs annually to the province of Vaucluse alone, but which is now threatened by the chemical discovery of an artificial *alizarine*, which, at a much lower cost, can be extracted from coal.

The churches of Avignon are all xv. c. or xvi. c. The most remarkable is *S. Pierre*, behind the papal palace. It is reached by a curious rock-hewn street beneath one of the enormous palace buttresses. Founded in 433, it was rebuilt by Cardinal Pierre du Pré. The W. façade is very rich xvi. c. gothic (1520), with a beautiful statue of the Virgin, by the famous Bernus, on the central pillar of the portal: the doors are also very handsome. In the interior are an organ loft and a beautiful xv. c. pulpit, signed by



its sculptor, Jacques Malhe. Its original statues have been replaced by others taken from the tomb of Pope John XXII. The beheaded Perrinet Parpaille was buried near the sacristy.

*S. Didier*, in the same direction, to the l. of the wide Cours de la République, was founded by S. Agricole, and rebuilt by Cardinal Bertrand de Dencio. It contains the tomb of the engraver Baléchou, and the rétable brought from the Célestins, and called *les Images du roi René*, because made for that prince by one Francesco, an Italian, in 1481. The relics of S. Benezet have been preserved at S. Didier since the chapel on the bridge was ruined. Here also the blessed Pierre de Luxembourg, canon of Notre Dame at ten years old, bishop of Metz at fifteen, cardinal at seventeen, and who died in his eighteenth year, is especially honoured: a bonfire celebrates his fête on the Place du Corps-Saint. Near this is the handsome *Hôtel Crillon*. Further down the Cours, on the l., is *S. Martial*, originally Benedictine, afterwards Cluniac. A rich flamboyant window on its N. front is supposed to represent a huge fleur-de-lis. This church formerly contained the splendid tombs of Urban V., Cardinal Legrange, Raymond de Beaufort, and Gaspard de Simiane: it is now partly a Protestant temple, partly a Museum of Natural History. To the r. of the Place de l'Hôtel de Ville is *S. Agricole*, founded by its patron saint in 680, destroyed by the Saracens, and rebuilt 1321—1420. It contains a picture by Mignard, and the tomb of his nephew Pierre. Over the tribune is a fresco by *Pietro da Cortona*.

Only the l. aisle of the nave remains from the church of the *Cordeliers* (at the E. end of the Rue des Lices)

where Laura, beloved of Petrarch, was buried in the Chapelle de la Croix. She was the daughter of Audibert de Noves, and had been married for two years to Hugues de Sade, when Petrarch saw her for the first time in the church of the nuns of S. Claire, at 6 a.m. on the Monday in Holy Week of 1327. For twenty years she was hopelessly loved, and extolled in innumerable sonnets. Then she died of the black plague, of which 1,400 persons perished in Avignon in three days. Her tomb was opened in 1533, and again upon the visit of François I., when the king, having read a sonnet, then supposed to be by Petrarch, which had been buried with the ashes, added some lines either of his own or by Clement Marot.

'En petit lieu comprins vous pouvez voir  
Ce qui comprend beaucoup par renommée ;  
Plume, labeur, la langue et le sçavoir  
Furent vaincus par l'aymant de l'aymée.

'O gentille âme, estant tant estimée,  
Qui te pourra louer qu'en se taisant ?  
Car la parole est toujours réprimée  
Quand le sujet surmonte le disant.'

The last remains of Laura were taken to the Bibliothèque Nationale in 1793, and have since been lost ; even a little cippus placed by one Charles Kelsall on the site of her grave in 1823 has been carried to the Museum. The Dominican Convent, in which S. Thomas Aquinas and S. Yves (the patron saint of lawyers) were canonized, is totally destroyed. A gothic cloister built by Martin V., with a refectory and church, remain from the *Couvent des Célestins*, founded by Clement VII. in honour of Pierre de Luxembourg, who is buried here. A machico-

lated gothic tower, surmounted by a pyramid and a minaret (Rue Carratterie), remains of the *Couvent des Augustins*. The old *Palace of the Archbishops* (Petit Séminaire) was built 1314 by Jacques de Via, nephew of John XXII. Opposite the papal palace is the ancient *Hôtel des Monnaies*, built early in xvii. c. In the Place de l'Hôtel de Ville is a *Statue of Crillon* (1858).

'Brave Crillon, vous savez comme estant roy de Navarre je vous aymoïs, estimoïs et fesoïs cas de vous ; depuis que je suis roy je n'en fais pas moins et vous honore autant que gentilhomme de mon royaume, ce que je vous prie de croire et en faire estat. Sur ce, brave Crillon, Dieu vous ait en sa sainte garde. Henry.' — '*Letters of Henri IV.*'

In the Protestant cemetery are the tombs of John Stuart Mill and Bishop Colenso.

'On rapporte qu'entendant un jour la Passion à Avignon, Crillon se leva, transporté de fureur, au récit des outrages dont Christ a été le sujet, et s'écria, en brandissant son épée—*Où étois-tu, Crillon ?*'—*Lebas.*

The *Musée Calvet*, in the former hotel of the Marquis de Villeneuve in the Rue Joseph-Vernet, originates in the bequest of an Avignon doctor in 1810. The remains of the fine tombs of Urban V. and others have been removed hither, with extreme bad taste, from S. Martial. There are a few tolerable bits of sculpture and many indifferent pictures, besides the 'Mazeppa' of *Horace Vernet*, and the 'Death of the Drummer Jean Barrad' in the Vendean war, a remarkable work of *David*.

Avignon, which continued to belong to the pope till the Revolution, was formerly filled with convents of every description, of which the bells were incessantly ringing ;

hence the name of 'Isle sonnante' which Rabelais gave to the town. Most of the convents have disappeared since the town became French, and the town is now become a centre of the silk and madder industries. In the streets many of the *bourgets*, or little towers, which the bourgeois erected by hundreds on their houses in the time of their freedom, may still be seen.



BRIDGE OF S. BENEZET, AVIGNON.

In the Rhône are the remains of the famous bridge which united Provence with Languedoc, built by S. Benezet, a child-shepherd of Vivarais, in consequence of a dream, 1177-88, with the alms of the faithful which he is believed to have been urged to collect by the voice of Christ Himself. Only four of its twenty-two arches remain, with the chapel of S. Nicolas, which once contained the relics of S. Benezet. Hence the body of Marshal Brune was thrown into the Rhône. The bridge, due to the inspiration



of a child, who thus founded the association of *Frères Pontifes* for good works of the kind carried on in a fraternal spirit, became the highway of the world, and is that formerly celebrated in the popular *ronde* :

‘ Sur le pont d’Avignon  
Tout le monde y passe.’

1 k. S. of Avignon are the ruins of the *Abbey of S. Ruf*, of which one of the abbots became Pope Adrian VI. The chapel is xi. c., with an apse polygonal externally and circular within.



FROM THE TOMB OF INNOCENT VI.

2 k. N.E. are the ruins of the *Priory of S. Véran*, founded 1140.

An omnibus (from the Hôtel de Ville, 15 c.) constantly runs from the town across the great *Ile de la Berthelasse*, fringed with willows and poplars, to *Villeneuve-lès-Avignon*, on the other side of the river, where the most striking feature is the enormous square tower, built in 1307 by Philippe le Bel, which defended the bridge of Avignon on the French side. Like all the buildings here, of hard yellow stone, it retains all its sharpness of outline and is unstained by the weather. The church of *La Paroisse* was founded in xiv. c. by Cardinal Arnauld de Via, who is buried under a gothic tomb in the 2nd chapel l. In the 2nd chapel r. is the tomb of a Prince de Conti. N. of the church is a cloister, with

very simple gothic arcades. On the l. of the street, opposite the S. door, is the *Hospital*, to the chapel of which the tomb of Pope Innocent VI. has been removed from the 'Chartreuse du Val de Bénédiction,' which he founded in 1356. It is a most beautiful and delicate work, and bears the statue of the Pope, Étienne d'Albret of Limousin, formerly bishop of Clermont, a peaceful and dignified pontiff, who did his utmost to redress the abuses of his predecessor, Clement VI.

The tomb 'bears witness to the wealth and splendour of the most powerful and most prudent of the Avignonese pontiffs.'—*Milman*.

The *Gallery* of the *Musée* (open from 12 to 4) contains two pictures of interest: (36) *La Sainte Trinité*, much injured by 'restoration,' but attributed to King René, who is said to have given the features of his friends to the good and his enemies to the bad; and (64) *Pierre Mignard*, who has represented the unhappy Marquise de Ganges, 'La belle Provençale,' as the penitent S. Roseline de Villeneuve.

In the Grande Rue is the *Hôtel de Conti*; in the Rue Mont-Andaon, the *Palace of Cardinal de Giffon*, with a massive tower. *La Porte du Bout-de-Ville* (xviii. c.) is the only remnant of the ancient walls.

On the hill above the town are the xiv. c. remains of the *Fort S. André*, enclosing those of a Benedictine abbey, and the xi. c. chapel of *Notre Dame de Belvezet*.

[A pleasant day's excursion may be made from Avignon to Vaucluse (32 k.) by carriage; it may also be seen by taking the railway to l'Isle, on the line to Pertuis. See p. 378.]

[*Mont Ventoux* (48 k. N.E.) may be ascended from Avignon. Though only 1,912 mètr. high, this isolated mountain, recalling Soracte in the Roman Campagna, is full of majesty and beauty. It is well named Ventoux, from the winds which descend from it to sweep the neighbouring plains. Petrarch, who ascended the mountain April 26, 1336, described its sides as woody: now the upper part is quite bare, the lower slopes have been recently planted with chestnut. At the summit is the little *Chapelle de S. Croix*, a place of pilgrimage on Sept. 14. Hence there is a glorious mountain view,

'Cette cime avancée, à l'énorme base toute ruisselante de sources et ceinte de verdure, est l'une des plus fameuses des Alpes, grâce à son isolement, à la majesté de son aspect, à l'immensité de l'espace qu'elle domine. Comme le Canigou et l'Étna, on la voit dessiner son profil régulier sur tout un côté de l'horizon, et quoique beaucoup moins haute que ces deux montagnes, elle est d'une apparence à peine moins grandiose. Il est facile d'étudier sur ses pentes uniformes l'étagement normal des fiores et nombre



PONT DU GARD.

de botanistes se sont livrés à cette étude. Les feuillets géologiques de cette partie de la France sont aussi plus intéressants pour la connaissance de la flore et de la faune antiques. Les terres miocènes du Ventoux, et plus encore ceux du Léberon, sont d'une richesse extraordinaire en débris de vertébrés, grands lions, sangliers, gazelles, hipparions.'—*Élisée Reclus*.]

[No traveller should miss making an excursion from Avignon to the glorious *Pont du Gard* (29 k.), the noblest aqueduct in the world, which may be reached either by carriage or by rail,

taking the line to Uzès. It may also be visited by turning aside a little on the way to Nîmes. Trains are changed for Pont du Gard at Remoulins, and those who do not care to wait there for another train, may take the omnibus from Remoulins ( $3\frac{1}{2}$  k.) to the Pont du Gard.

Ten minutes' walk from the station of Pont du Gard, crossing a solitary and stony defile which will recall the gorges of Palestine and Syria, are the remains of the great aqueduct-bridge over the Gardon, built by Agrippa to carry the waters of the Eure and Airan to Nîmes. It has three tiers of arches; three below, eleven of equal span in the second tier, and thirty-five smaller ones in the third. In gigantic proportions, it exactly gives the side of a romanesque cathedral—its pier-arches, triforium, and clerestory.<sup>1</sup> The highest range of arches supports a canal, five feet high and two wide. The height of the bridge is 180 ft. and its length at the top 873 ft. Nothing can exceed the picturesque effect of the ruins—in which the original orange colour of the stone is reddened with the sunshine of two thousand years—especially when they are reflected in the river.

'Montibus impositos cantavit Graecia montes;  
Pyramidum ostentat barbara Memphis opus.  
Plus est quòd cernis, triplicis conjungere pontis  
Fornicibus montes sic potuisse duos.  
Et plus est, victam quo se natura fatetur,  
Imposuisse ipsis flumina fluminibus.'

*Théodore de Bèze.*

'Le retentissement de mes pas dans ces immenses voûtes me faisait croire entendre la forte voix de ceux qui les avaient bâties. Je me perdais comme un insecte dans cette immensité. Je sentais, tout en me faisant petit, je ne sais quoi qui m'élevait l'âme; et je me disais en soupirant: Que ne suis-je né Romain!' —*Rousseau.*]

[Avignon is connected with Carpentras by a branch line through the dull but fruitful plain, from—

10 k. *Sorgues.* See p. 358.

<sup>1</sup> Petit, *Church Architecture.*



14 k. *Entraigues*. The Presbytère occupies the ruins of the château; a battlemented tower serves as a belfry.

17 k. *Althen-les-Paluds*, named from Persian Althen, who introduced the culture of madder for dye.

21 k. *Monteux*, where Clement V. had a favourite castle, of which the ruins remain.

27 k. *Carpentras* (Hotels: *de l'Orient; de l'Univers*), the ancient Carpentoracte, a very dull town on the Auzon, which was surrounded with walls by Innocent VI. A straight road leads from the station to the *Hôtel Dieu*, of 1750, in front of which is a statue (by Daumas) of its founder, the Trappist Malachie d'Inguimbert, bishop of Cavaillon. Hence the Rue de la République takes us into the town. On the r. is the former *Cathedral of S. Suffrén* (Sanctus Suffredus), founded xi. c. and rebuilt 1505-19. The two side portals of the renaissance front have red jasper columns, brought from the baptistery of Venasque. Over the principal portal on the S. is *la boule aux rats*—a globe with rats crawling over it. In the interior are two good xvi. c. monuments on either side of the W. door, and, at the entrance to the choir, the tomb of Bishop Lorenzo Buti, 1710.

The Évêché is now the *Palais de Justice*. In a dark hole between it and the cathedral is the only existing remnant of the Gallo-Roman Carpentoracte Julia—an *Arc de Triomphe*, which once served as a gate to the city.

'Il n'en reste qu'une voûte assez élevée, dont l'archivolte extérieure est soutenue par des pilastres cannelés, et des impostes d'ordre composite, plus riches qu'élégans. Aux quatre angles extérieurs des massifs, on remarque des tronçons de colonnes cannelées, dont la base s'élève à peu près à moitié des pilastres et repose sur un soubassement lisse. Les deux faces latérales de l'arc offrent chacune un bas-relief représentant deux captifs attachés les mains derrière le dos à un trophée. Tout l'amortissement de l'arc, à partir du sommet de l'archivolte, est détruit, et pour préserver la voûte, on l'a recouverte d'une espèce de toit en pierre dont l'effet est loin d'être agréable.'—*Prosper Mérimée*.

The street ends in the handsome *Porte d'Orange*, the only one spared of the four gates of hard Provençal stone of which three have recently been destroyed with the walls. Opposite, on

the outside, is a *loueur des voitures*, who will provide (6 fr.) a good open carriage for the afternoon to—

10 k. S.E. *Venasque*, the ancient *Venasca*, the seat of a bishopric from the III. c. to the VI. c., and afterwards the capital of Comtat Venaissin. It is a mountain town situated on picturesque cavernous grey rocks, thickly overhung with green. Pedestrians will leave their carriage at the foot of the hill and ascend the steep stony way on foot. The church has a truncated gothic spire and a rich romanesque W. door. At the cross is a very curious cupola



VENASQUE.

vaulted with eight ribs, and with pendentifs upon which the symbols of the Evangelists are sculptured. The crypt is XI. c.

Behind the E. end of the church, entirely concealed by houses (the Curé has the key) and showing nothing externally but two romanesque windows on the wall, is the very curious and impressive four-apsed *Baptistery* of the IX. c., long supposed to have been a temple of Venus.

‘Le prétendu temple est d’une forme singulière ; c’est une coupole peu élevée inscrite dans un carré, sur les faces duquel sont placés quatre apsidés ou culs de four, correspondant aux points cardinaux. L’appareil est petit, irrégulier et très grossier ;

les voûtes des culs de four sont en blocage, et celles de la coupole en moellons. Nulle part je n'ai vu de vestiges d'un enduit quelconque appliqué sur les murs. À l'extérieur, la décoration de l'édifice est nulle. À l'intérieur, cinq grandes colonnes corinthiennes, dont le fût est de marbre rose et blanc, et les chapiteaux de marbre blanc, soutiennent un reste de corniche informe; on voit qu'elles devaient être autrefois au nombre de douze, trois pour chaque angle rentrant, formé par l'intersection de chacun des demi-cercles des absides avec les faces du carré. Six colonnes beaucoup plus petites en cipolin, granite ou pierre, sont disposées autour de chacune des absides supportant une arcature cintrée, à claveaux mal taillés, annonçant le travail le plus barbare.—*Prosper Mérimée.*

At the end of the village are the ruins of the old castle. The sanctuary of *Notre Dame de Vie*, on the other side of the Nesque, has great fame in the country. A little higher up is the ruined *Priory of S. Maurice*, now a farm. The *Tour de Pinet*, upon a hill to S.E., is attributed to the Templars.

The return to Carpentras may be varied by passing the *Ecclesiastical College* and pretty little town of *S. Didier*.]

[The road from Carpentras to Cavaillon passes through (7 k.) *Pernes*, which retains four of its gates. The château, which was given by Raymond VII. of Toulouse to his divorced wife, Sancia of Arragon, is now a barrack. The church (outside the walls), partly of the ix. c., has a curious sculptured frieze above the cornice of the nave, of which the aisles are now divided as chapels. Tradition says that the S. portal is Roman; it is possibly of vii. c. or viii. c.]

[The road from Carpentras to Sisteron passes (7 k.) *Mazan*, which retains four of its gates, and a curious church of xi. c., xiii. c., and xv. c.; (12 k.) *Mormoiron*, which has remains of a commanderie of the Templars; (38 k.) *Sault*, with remains of xi. c. castle and xii. c. church; (42 k.) *S. Trinité*, with church partly xi. c. and xii. c., and, in the neighbourhood, the Benedictine convent of *S. Christol*; and (73 k.) *S. Étienne-des-Orgues*, near which is the *Abbaye de Notre-Dame-de-Lune*, founded 522, destroyed by Saracens, and rebuilt early in xiii. c. From Sault an excursion

may be made to (12 k.) *Montbrun*, which has a very striking castle, the head-quarters of the Huguenots in xvi. c.]

[Several excursions may be made from Avignon by the railway to Gap, but none of these are of general interest, except that to *Vaucluse*, which may be more comfortably visited in a carriage from Avignon. The line passes—

6 k. *Montfavet*. The fortified xiv. c. *Church* is a remnant of a monastery founded by Cardinal Bertrand de Montfavet, in which he was buried in 1343. Here is the tomb of Pierre de Cohorn, chamberlain and general of Christian I. of Denmark. 1 k. N.W. is the *Tour d'Espagne*, a remnant of a Dominican convent, founded by Cardinal Gomez de Barosso in 1348. 2 k. S. of the station are the ruins of the abbey and château of *Mont-de-Vergues*, founded 1060.

16 k. *Gadagne*. 4 k. S. is *Caumont*, where the church contains the tomb of Cardinal de Cabassole, the friend of Petrarch. W. is the romanesque x. c. chapel of *S. Symphorien*.

19 k. *Le Thor* (*Taurus*), on the l. bank of the *Sorgue*. The xii. c. church derives its name of *S. Marie au Lac* from an image of the Virgin, supposed to have been discovered in a lake by a bull. The building is a mixture of romanesque and early gothic. At the fourth bay of the single nave is a ribbed cupola, formerly surmounted by a belfry: the apse is vaulted in the same manner. A cradle vault supports the roof above the ribbed vaulting of the nave. 2 k. N. are the ruins of the *Château de Thouzon* and a x. c. chapel: the church has a single Carlovingian nave and a Merovingian apse. 4 k. is *Velleron*, on the *Sorgue*, which has several curious old *maisons seigneuriales*, especially that *des Cambis*, and that *des Trillans* (now a presbytery school), with machicolated entrance, battlemented parapet, and tower.

*L'Isle* (Hotels: *de Pétrarque*; *Laure*). An omnibus to *Vaucluse* meets all the trains. 8 k. N.E. (leaving *Saumare*, with its xii. c. and xvi. c. church, and its xii. c., xvi. c., and xvii. c. ruined château, on l.) is the valley—most intensely hot in summer—with the famous village of *Vaucluse* (*Vallis Clausa*). Its little monastic church of x. c. contains, in an apsidal chapel, the tomb of S. Véran.

‘Un monument rappelle le souvenir de Pétrarque et ses vers, bien maniérés pour cette forte et franche nature.’—*Élisée Reclus*.



A path leads in 10 min. to the celebrated *Fountain*, the source of the Sorgue, which gushes forth in an abundant volume at the foot of the precipitous limestone cliff which closes the gorge, forming at first a silent pellucid pool, and then tumbling noisily towards the valley. The life-giving waters of the Sorgues are afterwards divided into *sorgues* and *sorgettes*, to supply the different towns and villages of the plain.



VAUCLUSE.

The great yellow rocks are crowned to the r. by a ruin called the Château de Pétrarque: it was, however, to a villa in the valley that the poet retired in 1337, having been greatly impressed by the spot when he visited it in his childhood in 1313. Here he says that all his works were either executed, begun, or conceived, and he narrates that he would never have left this spot unless on the same day, by a strange chance, he had received two letters, one from the Senate of Rome, the other from the chancellor of the town of Paris, both summoning him—one to Rome, the other

to Paris—to receive the crown of a poet laureate; this being the reward of his Latin epic, *Africa*, on the Punic wars. He then decided upon accepting the honours as offered by Rome, where, on April 8, 1741, he was crowned upon the Capitol.

The fountain gives a name to the Département de Vaucluse, famous for its truffles, which it produces annually to the value of four million francs.

Crossing a rich district, watered by canals taken from the Calavon and the Durance, we reach—

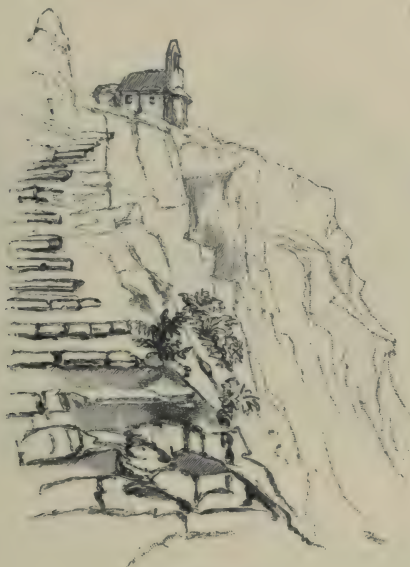
33 k. *Cavaillon* (Hotel: *Parrocel*—tolerable), a Roman colony



ARCH OF CAVAILLON.

—Cabellio colonia in Cavaribus—which became an episcopal city in the v. c. It is a pretty little town, its principal streets completely shaded by avenues of old plane trees between the houses. The largest of these ends in a little 'place,' to which the remains of a small Roman *Arch of Triumph* have been removed from the episcopal palace; it is supposed to have been originally built from materials which had been used in another edifice. A winged Victory appears on either side of the archivolt. The little gateway behind the arch is the entrance to a rock staircase up the precipices of *Mont S. Jacques* at the back of the town, which are crowned by a hermitage of very early date.

The *Cathedral of S. Véran* was consecrated by Innocent VI. in 1251, but probably dates from ix. c. It is a basilica, terminating in an apse, which is hexagonal outside and circular within. The side aisles are now divided into chapels. Externally, a beautiful frieze runs along the top of the S. and N. walls. The tomb of Bishop de Sade is of 1707.



AT CAVAILLON.

'La partie inférieure des piliers, depuis le sol jusqu'au-dessus des arcades, est décorée de pilastres; le haut, de colonnes torses ou cannelées, fuselées, engagées dans les angles rentrants formés par l'intersection des piliers et du mur de la nef. Sur le fût de quelques unes de ces colonnes, on voit des animaux sculptés en relief: tantôt c'est un serpent qui se roule autour du fût et semble s'élancer vers le chapiteau; tantôt un aigle

enlevant un mouton ; quelquefois des animaux fantastiques. Les chapiteaux sont à feuillages.'—*Prosper Mérimée*.

A chapel on l. of the nave was built by Cardinal de Cabassole, the friend of Petrarch ; it contains a good work of Mignard, by whom there are seven other pictures in the church. The cathedral is usually entered by the S. through a beautiful miniature cloister of the XI. c., with a garden in the centre.]



CLOISTER OF CAVAILLON.

[A line diverges N.E. from Cavaillon to Apt. To the l. of the line, on the last buttresses of the Vaucluse chain, is *Taillades*, where a romanesque hall remains from the old château, on a rock which bears a rudely sculptured figure known as *Le Mourvelous*. A chapel is XIII. c.

11 k. *Maubec*. 3 k. S.E. is the ruined castle of *Oppède*, built 1209, by Count Raymond VI. of Toulouse, and which he was obliged to resign to the popes. 3 k. N. is *Cabrières*, celebrated from the cruel massacre of the Vaudois by the Président d'Oppède in 1545. 7 k. from Maubec is *Gordes*, with a renaissance Hôtel



de Ville, once the château of Guillaume de Simiane, who refused to participate in the massacre of S. Bartholomew. 4 k. N. of Gordes are the romanesque remains of the *Abbaye de Sénanque*, founded by Alphant, bishop of Cavaillon, in 1148. The church has a triple nave, a transept with four E. chapels, and a tower over the central cupola, and is an admirable specimen of the Cistercian architecture of Provence. The cloister has arcades of romanesque arches, enclosed in larger convex arches.

The line to Apt passes r. the fortress of *Menerbes*, with a XIV. c. church, then *S. Pantaléon*, possessing a very early church with rock-hewn graves, before reaching—

18 k. *Goult-Lumières*. Near the station on l. is the sanctuary of *Notre Dame des Lumières*, of XIV. c., with an older crypt. In the garden of the Oblates is the XII. c. chapel of *S. Michel*.

21 k. *Bonnieux*. The town, 6 k. r. on the mountain-side (no omnibus or carriage), is surrounded by walls of XIII. c. The church, approached by a long staircase, is XII. c., and has a wide view of the valley of Valmasque and Mont Ventoux. 3 k. beyond the station, close to the line on the l., is the *Pont Julien*, a very well preserved Roman bridge of three arches over the Calavon, a turbulent mountain stream reduced to almost a thread in summer but which often causes terrible inundations in autumn and spring.

32 k. *Apt* (Hotel: *du Louvre*—good and clean), a town of the Gaulish *Vulgientes*, called *Apta Julia Vulgientium* by Julius Caesar. It is said that Hadrian lost his horse Borysthenes here, and that the inscription on the monument which the inhabitants raised to it was found in 1604.

Apt contains nothing of special interest, but in summer, when awnings are stretched across the streets, and especially when the roses are in bloom, it is a pretty little place. The principal street is crossed by a gate, under the *Tour de l'Horloge*, and joining the former is the *Cathedral of S. Anne*, which is said to have been founded by S. Castor in v. c., with materials from a Roman amphitheatre. It was rebuilt by Bishop Eliphantus in 1056, and has been so modernised and added to in XVI. c. that little ancient remains. The *Chapelle Royale* (l.), built by Mansart for Anne of Austria, has a cupola, and is effective: it contains a pretty sculptured group of S. Anne teaching the Virgin, and a picture by *Mignard*. There is a crypt of x. c., with an ancient altar,

and below this a second crypt, perhaps part of the original church of S. Castor, where a niche, defended by a lattice, is said to have contained the veil of S. Anne. A Gallo-Roman marble sarcophagus near the W. door is of v. c. S. Castor (*ob.* 419) was Bishop of Apt. The sous-préfecture occupies the ground floor of the former Évêché. The *Chapelle de Notre Dame de Clermont*, said to have been consecrated by Urban II. in 1096, is now a stable. The *Chapelle de S. Vincent* (x. c. or xi. c.) on a rock, overlooks the valley of Rocsalrière.

The Amphitheatre of Apt, so vividly described in the well-known *Numa Roumestan* of Daudet, has never existed since the iv. c., except in the novelist's imagination.

A little S.E. of Apt is *Saignon*, with a ruined castle and a church, which is xi. c., except the xiii. c. portal.

A railway is in construction from Apt to Volx on the line between Sisteron and Aix by (19 k.) *Cereste* (Catuica), which has remains of a Roman military way and camp, and (43 k.) *Forcalquier* (see ch. x.)]

[The diligence from Apt to Manosque (ch. x.) passes by *Reillanne*, the Roman Alannia, which has a castle and gateway (Porte des Forges). The church is partly of 1200, and has a curious ancient altar.]

[About 11 k. from Apt, near the road to Aix, rises the rock of *Buoux*, crowned by the ruins of a xii. c. château, defended by the Protestants in the civil wars and dismantled in xvii. c. Near this, close to the Aix road, is a square romanesque tower, part of a priory of *S. Symphorien*, founded 1064, with a little pilgrimage chapel attached to it.]

[There is a line from Cavaillon to Miramas on the main line to Marseilles (see later) through (39 k.) *Orgon*, on the Durance, occupying the site of a Gallic oppidum, and with ruins (well and walls) of a fortress of the late Roman Empire; and (59 k.) *Salon*, with the xii. c. church of *S. Michel* and a xv. c. gateway in *la vieille ville*, and the collegiate church of *S. Laurent* of 1344 in *la ville neuve*.]

Continuing to follow the line from Avignon to Gap we reach—

65 k. *Cadenet*, where the marble font of the church (xiv. c. and xvi. c.) is an ancient Roman work. 8 k. N.W. is *Cucuron*, where the romanesque and gothic church has a great rétable by Paget.

6 k. from the station is the Cistercian *Abbey of Silvacane*, founded by Bertrand-des-Baux in 1147. The church, which has three W. doors, consists of a large nave, of which the aisles are contrived to give additional strength to the principal vaulting, a transept flanked by four rectangular chapels, and a square choir. A square tower rises at the cross. The cloisters are greatly mutilated. The chapter house is now a stable. The refectory and kitchen, etc., are gothic. Above the gardens a stream bursts forth at the foot of a rock.

77 k. *Pertuis* (Hotel: *du Cours*), a manufacturing town. 5 k. N.E. is *La Tour d'Aigues*, with the striking ruins of a castle of the Barons de Cental. The xvii. c. church is entered by a portal in what was the apse of the primitive church. 6 k. further is *Grambois*, with a romanesque church, and 5 k. further still *Notre Dame de l'Ermitage*, a monastery founded in the xviii. c. on the site of a convent of Templars, of which the fine romanesque chapel exists.

4 k. beyond Pertuis the line joins that from Gap to Marseilles.]

[A road leads S.E. from Avignon to (74 k.) Aix, by—

11 k. *Bonpas*. At the entrance of the bridge a road diverges l. to the abbey of Bonpas, now a silk factory. The place was called Maupas from its brigands, till the hermit Silbert, in 1076, built a chapel there, which became the nucleus of a monastery of knights hospitallers, ceded to Carthusians in 1320. Simon Langham, archbishop of Canterbury, erected the magnificent church. The polygonal apse is of late xii. c. Crossing the bridge, a road on r. leads (1 k.) to *Noves*, a curious fortified village retaining its walls and four gateways, and a church which dates from the end of the ix. c., when it was dedicated to S. Baudile. The hill on the N. bears the chapel of *Notre Dame de Pitié*, that on the S. the chapel of *Notre Dame des Fonts*, named from a fountain, with waters reputed to have the power of curing malaria.

The road passes to the l. of *Notre Dame du Rosaire*, a chapel attributed to the Templars; then on r. *Verquières*, with the xii. c. fortified church of S. *Vérédème*.

18 k. *S. Andiol*. The church, once fortified, has a beautiful pulpit from the abbey of S. Catherine d'Avignon.

24 k., where we cross the road from S. Rémy to Cavaillon, is a Roman milliary column.

28 k. *Orgon*, on the line from Avignon to Cavaillon.

47 k. r. 1 k. is the *Temple de la Maison Basse*, a curious corinthian building, with the little chapel of S. Césaire built against its N. façade in the x. c. On the hill of *Puy-de-Valori* (3 k.) many Roman relics and tombs have been found.

54 k. *Lambesc*, a considerable place.

58 k. *S. Cannat*, with remains of a House of the Templars and a castle of the Bishops of Marseilles.]

748 k. *Barbentane*, retains its ancient ramparts (and a gateway, *Porte de la Cathedrale*, xv. c.) in a great measure cut in the rock. The tower which overlooks the town was built 1365 by Anglicus Grimoald, brother of Urban V. There is an omnibus to (2 k.) *Rognonas*, which has a baptistery of iv. c., and (7 k.) *Château-Renard*, with remains of an old castle, once of importance.

755 k. *Graveson*. The village (2 k. N.E.) has a curious church, built 1198 by the brothers Pontifes de Bonpas. 2½ k. S. is *Maillanne*, which has fine xvii. c. rétable, and of which the poet Frédéric Mistral was a native. On the r. of the line the rocks conceal the abbey of *Frigolet*, which has a xii. c. cloister, and the romanesque church of *Boulbon*. The ancient priory of *S. Marcellin* contains a portrait of John XXII.

764 k. *Tarascon* (*Hotels : des Empereurs ; du Luxembourg*), the site of a Gallic and Roman city, which became important in the middle-ages under the counts of Provence.

Legend narrates that when S. Martha, sister of Mary Magdalen, landed in Provence, she found the country



near this ravaged by a terrible dragon called Tarasque, which she exorcised and subdued. In memory of this deliverance the Fête-de-la-Tarasque was annually held here on the second Sunday after Pentecost, when the dragon is represented furious and terrible, and on the feast of S. Martha, when it is subdued and led by a cord by a young girl.

‘Une immense machine en osier recouverte de toile cirée, et tenue par de grands et forts cerceaux, avait la forme d’un dragon ou de telle autre bête fantastique. Cette machine, ayant à peu près vingt à vingt-cinq pieds de longueur, était remplie d’une troupe de jeunes gens désignés par la ville lorsque la fête de la *tarasque* était décidée. C’était un honneur d’y être admis. Lorsqu’ils étaient tous dans cette bizarre voiture, ils partaient, et se lançant de toute la rapidité de leurs jambes, ils couraient dans la ville, renversant tout ce qui se trouvait devant eux, sans avoir égard à rien. Tant pis pour les aveugles ou les paresseux ; ils étaient culbutés.’—‘*Mémoires de la Duchesse d’Abrantes.*’

The interesting Church of *S. Marthe*, built on the site of a Roman temple 1187-97, was rebuilt 1379—1449. Only the sumptuous S. portal (with a sculptured ivy-wreath unique in XII. c. work) and a porch leading to the crypt remain from the earlier building ; the gothic interior, crypt, vaulting, and spire are of the later. A number of pictures by *Vien* and *Parrocel* represent the history of S. Marthe. At the foot of the staircase leading to the crypt, and close to the picturesque grille, is the tomb of Jean de Cossa, governor of Provence for King René. In the crypt (sometimes flooded in winter) are an early font, the supposed tomb of S. Marthe, and (l.) the tomb of King Louis II.

The *Château*, begun in XIV. c. by Louis II. of Provence, and finished by King René in XV. c., stands—perfectly pre-

served—on a rocky base above the river. It is now used as a prison. It encloses a graceful xv. c. chapel, and is a capital artistic subject. In the interior are the carvings and reliefs placed by King René. During the Cent Jours, Tarascon took a bloody part in the royalist reaction.

‘Du haut des tours du château de Tarascon on avait précipité des femmes, des vieillards, des enfants! Dans une excavation



CASTLE OF TARASCON.

formée par les rochers, un peu au-dessous de la ville de Beaucaire, nous vîmes deux cadavres de femmes auxquelles on avait coupé les mamelles, et que la violence des flots avait poussés dans ces cavernes, ils ne pouvaient en sortir; et parfois, le vent apportait une odeur fétide qui faisait défaillir.’—*Mémoires de la Duchesse d’Abrantes.*

Immediately opposite and across the suspension bridge, rises the noble castle of Beaucaire.

5 k. S.S.E. is the curious xi. c. *Chapelle de S. Gabriel*—a basilica ending in a hexagonal apse, with a face which shows a

mixture of classical details and byzantine fancies: On the hill behind is a tower, said to be Roman, but probably of the same date as the church. This is the site of the Roman station of Ernaginum, and many tombs have been found here of the same kind as those of Aliscamps, but without ornament.

[A line (105 k.) connects Tarascon with Nîmes (see ch. ix.), Montpellier, and Cette (see *South-Western France*), passing—



BEUCAIRE.

1 k. *Beaucaire*, the ancient Roman station of Ugernum, of which the castrum was used as the site of a square castle, called from its form *Bellum quadrum*—Beau-carré, Bel-caire, Beaucaire. In the oldest part of the castle is a little romanesque chapel. In the adjoining building the young Comte de Toulouse, Raymond VII., besieged the crusaders, whilst he was himself besieged in his camp by Simon de Montfort. Forty-five Templars were burnt here—'qui eurent moult à souffrir, et furent ars.'

A little S.W. of Beaucaire is a xv. c. canopied *Cross*, said

to mark a spot where the body of S. Louis rested after being landed from Africa.]

[A line of 15 k. (with a separate station, close to but below the other) leads from Tarascon to—

*S. Rémy*: a place well worth seeing. It takes its name from the bishop of Reims, who is supposed to have wrought a miraculous cure here in 500 on his way to Avignon with Clovis. The church tower was built in 1330 by John XXII.

To reach the magnificent ruins of *Glanum* (about 2 k. from the station) we must turn r. from the railway and go straight on by the high road to Mausanne, through the boulevard of the little town, till, beyond its last houses, we find the *Plateau des Antiquités*. Here, close together, with the picturesque peaks of the *Alpes* rising behind them, stand the principal remains of the Gallo-Roman town of *Glanum Livii*, consisting of an *Arch of Triumph* and a *Tomb*. The upper part of the arch is destroyed, and its bas-reliefs and sculptures are much injured; the principal of the former represent chained captives. There is no reason to suppose that the arch has any reference to the person to whom the tomb is erected.

‘L’archivolte est une espèce de guirlande de fruits et de feuilles sculptée avec la même perfection d’imitation, avec le même goût de la variété des détails qu’on observe dans la période gothique.’—*Mérimée*.

The *Tomb*, which is probably not earlier than the time of Constantine, is composed of two storeys, adorned with delicate pilasters and friezes, crowned by ten corinthian columns with rich capitals, supporting a cupola. Above the pedestal is a garland supported by three genii. The first storey is decorated by four bas-reliefs, the subjects of which are much disputed. Under the cupola are two draped statues, with modern heads. On the architrave on the N. side is the inscription, ‘Sextus, Lucius, Marcus, Julii, curaverunt fieri parentibus suis.’ The rich orange colour of the stone in these buildings renders them indescribably picturesque.



‘Jean Goujon l’avait vu et s’en était certainement inspiré dans ses oeuvres. C’est l’édifice le mieux conservé qu’il y ait dans le monde, néanmoins il est peu connu ; la faible distance qui l’éloigne de la vallée du Rhône suffit pour en écarter les voyageurs qui passent chaque jour par centaines dans la ville voisine.’—*Élisée Reclus*.

Not far from the ruins is the former Priory of *S. Paul de*



S. RÉMY.

*Mausole* (now a unatic asylum), with an XI. c. church and a romanesque cloister.

Joseph Roumanville, son of a gardener at S. Rémy, has published verses in the present century in the *Langue d'Oc*, which are well known throughout the South, and have made Provençal once more fashionable. Théodore Aubanel and Frédéric Mistral have been the best followers of the school he founded.]

777 k. *Arles* (Hotels : *du Nord*—best, and very good and clean, with obliging landlady ; *du Forum*), one of the most

interesting and ancient towns in France, and by far the most picturesque city in Provence. As the ancient Arclas or Arclate, it was already an important town in the time of Caesar, and the rival of Marseilles. Its population was 100,000, and it was called the Rome of Gaul. In the 11. c. S. Trophime preached Christianity here and founded a bishopric, raised to an archbishopric in 14. c. Constantine, son of Maxentius and Fausta, was born here, and he conferred such benefits upon the town as induced it for a time to take the name of Constantine. In the middle-ages Arles was ravaged by the Visigoths, but in 879 became the capital of a kingdom which lasted 255 years, and was governed by eleven kings ; then the rule passed to consuls. Eighty-nine years succeeded, in alternations of royalty and republic, and eventually, in 1220, a podestat was established.

‘Arles est la Mecque des archéologues français ; c’est la cité antique par excellence. Des monuments romains forment le sol, et autour d’eux, à leur pied, à leur ombre, dans leurs crevasses, poussé, l’on ne sait comment, par la force végétative de la civilisation religieuse de Saint Louis, une seconde ville gothique, qui à son tour a donné naissance à des maisons qui, tant bien que mal, ont formé la ville moderne.’—*Alexandre Dumas*.

The importance of the original bridge at Arles is described by Ausonius :—

‘Gallula Roma Arclas, quam Narbo Martius, et quam  
Accolit Alpinis opulenta Vienna colonis,  
Praecipitis Rhodani sic intercisa fluentis,  
Et mediam facias navali ponte plateam,  
Per quem romani commercia suscipis orbis.’

‘*Ordo nobil. urbium*,’ vii.

The women of Arles are perhaps the most beautiful of any European city. With dark eyes and raven locks, they

are generally majestic in carriage and figure. They are greatly adorned by the becoming costume of Arles—which is still, happily, almost universal—a black dress and shawl, with full white muslin stomacher, and a very small lace cap



AN ARLESIENNE.

at the back of the hair, bound round with broad black velvet or ribbon, fastened with gold or jewelled pins.

‘Leur réputation de beauté est tout à fait méritée, et elles sont non seulement belles, mais encore gracieuses et distinguées. Leurs traits sont d’une délicatesse extrême, et appartiennent sur-

tout au type grec ; elles ont généralement les cheveux bruns, et des yeux noirs veloutés, comme je n'en ai vu qu'aux Indiens et aux Arabes. De temps en temps, au milieu d'un groupe ionien, passe rapidement une jeune fille, marquée au type sarrasin, avec ses yeux longs et relevés aux coins, son teint olivâtre, son corsage flexible et son pied d'enfant ; ou une grande femme, au sang gaulois, aux cheveux blonds et aux yeux bleus, à la démarche grave et tranquille.'—*A. Dumas.*

At the back of the Place du Forum (containing both the hotels, and where two granite columns of the old forum will be seen built into the wall of the Hôtel du Nord) is the Place de la Cour, containing the handsome *Hôtel de Ville* of 1673, which encloses in its buildings the *Tour de l'Horloge* of 1547, supporting a bronze statue of Mars (by Laurent Vincent, 1555)—'l'homme de bronze'—under a cupola. On the other side of the Hôtel de Ville is the Place de la République, formerly the Place Royale, in the centre of which is a small granite *Obelisk*, once an ornament of the ancient circus, and the only obelisk of Egyptian granite to be found in France ; it is supposed to have been a gift of Constantine to the town. Here, on r., is the old gothic church of S. Anne, now the *Musée*, containing a number of ancient fragments and several pagan sarcophagi (of Hydria Tertulia and her daughter Axia Aeliana, of Messanius, Chrysogonus, Cornelia *Jacaea*, etc.) of great interest and beauty. The collection of early Christian tombs is the most important in the world except that of the Lateran. That of the priest Commodus, with sculptures of Christ throned and the twelve Apostles, is especially remarkable. Only the cover remains of the tomb of S. Hilarion, bishop of Arles from 429 to 449. Many sarcophagi are decorated with scriptural subjects. An admirable head of Diana was found in the theatre.



On the opposite side of the Place rises the unfinished front of the famous *Church of S. Trophime*, consecrated by S. Virgile in 606, and dedicated to S. Stephen, and reconsecrated to S. Trophime in 1152, when his body was brought hither from S. Honorat. It has a noble roman-  
esque tower. The great portal, one of the finest works of



CLOISTER OF S. TROPHIME, ARLES.

the XII. c., in transition from romanesque to early gothic, is a copy in small of that of S. Gilles: the ornamentation of the façade is quite byzantine in character. The (re-  
stored) interior is a long basilica, with a nave of transition, and a choir and apse of late gothic, built by Cardinal Louis d'Allemand in 1430. Several of the altars are formed from ancient tombs, and have much beauty: that in

the Chapelle du S. Sépulcre is the tomb of Geminus Paulus. We may also notice, in the chapel r. of nave, the much injured tomb of Archbishop Gaspard du Laurens, 1630; and the epitaph of the Chevalier de Guise, killed at Baux in 1614; and in the chapel of l. transept, the tombs of Cardinal d'Alléman, and of Adhémar de Grignan, Archbishop of Arles in xvii. c. There is a fine gothic tomb against the r. wall of the nave.

A door beyond the r. transept, and a staircase, lead to the noble *Cloître de S. Trophime*, one of the most beautiful cloisters in France, of which the two romanesque galleries are xii. c., and of incomparable beauty and interest; the two others are gothic, and date from 1221 and 1389. At the angle of the earlier arcades is a well. Leaving the cloister by a gothic portal opening on a court, and then passing a romanesque portal to the Rue du Cloître, and turning l. we find ourselves above—

The *Roman Theatre*, said to have been begun by Augustus, but not finished till iii. c. It was destroyed in the v. c. by S. Hilaire and Cyrille the priest, who stripped off its marbles to adorn the churches. The ruins cover a vast space, and are most picturesquely beautiful, nature being allowed to give them colour, as is no longer the case at Rome. The principal portals and two noble columns,—one white, the other of breccio africano—remain. In this theatre the famous Venus d'Arles, now in the Louvre, was found in 1683. Behind the theatre is the pleasant public garden.

The Rue de la Miséricorde, and a turn (Rue des Arènes) to r. leads to the *Amphitheatre*—Les Arènes,—the largest in France, and exceedingly picturesque, owing

to the three fortress towers erected on its walls against the Saracens, in the middle-ages. In the exterior, where the columns remain, those of the lower storey are doric, of the upper corinthian: the attic is wanting, and many antiquaries think that it was never completed. The interior, built in enormous blocks, is exceedingly imposing. In the first part of the present century, no less than two



THE ROMAN THEATRE, ARLES.

hundred and twelve houses were existing amongst the ruins. It is well worth while to ascend to the higher tiers of arches to look down. Though carefully kept from further decay, the ruins are tufted with grass and wall-flowers, so are far more beautiful than the Coliseum in its present devastated condition. Since 1830, the arena has been frequently used for *Courses des Taureaux*, which, in Provence, are rather bull-baiting than bull-fights, and usually quite harmless.

Then the yellow-grey arcades have a magnificent effect, filled with a vast multitude, including thousands of beautiful Arlesiennes in their picturesque costume. The bulls are ushered in with music and beating of drums. Numbers of young men in the area play with them, excite them with cries, entice them with handkerchiefs, and, when the bulls make a rush, vault over the barriers into safety with marvellous agility. Any very hair-breadth escape is vehemently applauded by the spectators.

The church of *Notre Dame la Major* or *S. Marie Majeure*, on a rising ground opposite Les Arènes, occupies the site of a temple of Vesta. It was rebuilt in xi. c., and has been so much restored since that it has little of early construction except the walls, into which many Roman fragments are built. It was here that the Council of Arles was held in 314, in which the Donatists were condemned. Amongst the relics of the church are the curious pontificalia of S. Césaire. The Rue de la Madeleine leads from S. Marie Majeure to the romanesque chapel of *La Madeleine* (now a granary), of which S. Césaire was the founder. The ancient *Abbaye de S. Césaire* (now a private house) was founded by Cesaria, sister of the Bishop S. Césaire, in 513.<sup>1</sup> Two chapels, dedicated to S. Jean and S. Blaise, remain from the xi. c. Near the abbey, in the street of the name, is a low house, with a statue of the Virgin on its façade, called *La Maison des Saints*, where S. Trophime is supposed to have received SS. Paul and James.

The Rue des Pénitents Gris now takes us to the Porte d'Aure opening upon the public garden. Close by, crossing the Boulevard Victor Hugo, on the E. of the town

<sup>1</sup> See Thierry, *Récits des Mérovingiens*.



we reach the Champs Élysées, now known as the *Cemetery of Aliscamps*, fortunately remaining almost intact from pagan times, from a belief that when the first bishop of Arles was about to consecrate the old cemetery for Christian burial, Christ Himself appeared and blessed the pagan burial-place. Crossing a little line of railway, we soon



CEMETERY OF ALISCAMPS.

find ourselves amid hundreds of empty sarcophagi, for, on the spot where Christ left the marks of His knees, S. Trophime placed a stone altar, now enclosed in the little chapel of La Genouillade (built 1529), and from that time Aliscamps became the coveted burial-place of all Christians. A second chapel, built here by S. Trophime, was dedicated to the still-living Virgin, and bore the inscription ‘Sacellum

dedicatum deiparae adhuc viventi.' Upon the ruins of this chapel, another, dedicated to S. Honorat, was raised in the VI. c., and rebuilt XI. c. A third church, dedicated to SS. Peter and Paul, had been founded at Aliscamps, c. 500, by Asclepius. Thus protected, the corpses buried in the holy cemetery were supposed to be preserved from all attacks of the devil, and, in the XIII. c., interment here became so much sought that it was sufficient to embark a coffin on the Rhône for Aliscamps, with money for the burial, and it arrived at its destination. During the XII. c. the necropolis contained no less than nineteen churches or chapels, served by the monks of S. Victor at Marseilles; though after the body of S. Trophime was removed to the town in 1152, the glory of Aliscamps began to wane, and its ancient sarcophagi were frequently carried off to distant museums, even to those of Rome. In 1848 the railway destroyed a great part of the cemetery. The finest of the sculptured sarcophagi have been removed to the museum; of the others, those which remain entire have been ranged along the further part of the avenue which leads to the unfinished church of S. Honorat.

'Piena di sepolture è la campagna.'

*Ariosto, 'Orlando Furioso.'*

Near the entrance of this street of tombs is a beautiful arch—Arc de S. Césaire—one of the original gates of the cemetery, attached to the chapel of *S. Accurse*. On the r., beyond the house of the concierge, is a monument to the consuls who died of the plague in 1720. Nearer the church, on l., is a funeral oratory (xv. c.) of the historic family of the Porcelets, and a little further, part of the walls

of the chapel of *Notre Dame des Guerres*, dating from x. c. A little to N.E., beyond the canal of Craponne, was the *Chapelle de la Genouillade*, and further N. *S. Pierre-des-Mouleyrès*, of x. c. or xi. c.<sup>1</sup>

At the church, the avenue opens into a green lawn, shaded by trees and littered with hundreds of sarcophagi—



ARC DE S. CÉSAIRE, ALISCAMPS.

a spot infinitely quiet, touching, and impressive. In the unfinished open nave of the church are also a number of sarcophagi and some gothic tombs against the wall.

'Si come ad Arli ove'l Rodano stagna,  
Fanno i sepolcri tutto 'l loco varo.'

Dante, '*Inf.*' ix. 112.

The erection of a factory has recently been permitted here.

The church of S. Honorat has been restored at different times, and in the earliest restoration the nave appears to have been reduced. The principal portal is XII. c. Here Philip Thicknesse (1775) saw the sarcophagi of five saints—Genet; Roland, archbishop of Arles; Concord; Dorothy, virgin and martyr; Virgil and Hilaire, archbishops of Arles.

We have now visited the important sights of Arles, and all that are of general interest. Those who wish to explore the town more thoroughly, may follow the Boulevard Victor Hugo as far as the Rue Plan du Bourg, and there re-enter the town and turn l. by the Rue des Pénitents Blancs, and then r. to visit the oldest church in Arles, that of S. *Césaire* (often called Tombeau de S. Césaire), which has a wide gothic nave and a hexagonal apse.

The Rue de la Roquette leads hence to the desecrated church of S. *Croix*, with a gothic tower. Now the Rue de la Poissonnerie and Rue du Pont lead to the quay, by which we may turn r. to visit the fragments of the *Palace of Constantine*, which was in turn inhabited by Visigoth, Ostrogoth, and Frankish kings, by the kings of Arles, the emperors of Germany when they came to crown the kings of Arles, and the Comtes de Provence. What we see is a massy apse of stone, with Roman brick insertion. Hence the Rue de la Trouille and Rue Neuve take us back in two minutes to the Place du Forum.

‘Arles est une tombe, mais la tombe d’un peuple et d’une civilisation, une tombe pareille à celle de ces guerriers barbares avec lesquels on enterrait leur or, leurs armes et leurs dieux; la ville moderne est campée sur un sépulcre, et la terre sur laquelle est dressée sa tente renferme autant de richesses dans



son sein qu'elle offre de pauvreté et de misère à la surface.'—  
*A. Dumas.*

The *Musée Réattu*, in the Rue du Grand-Prieuré, is a little gallery of unimportant pictures, bequeathed to the town by the daughter of the native artist Réattu.



MONTMAJOUR.

There are many good specimens of renaissance houses in Arles. On the opposite bank of the Rhône, is the suburb of *Trinquetaille*, the Colonia Paterna of Caesar.

4k. N.E., the most important of the rocks, which rise from the marshy plain of Trébon, is crowned by the famous abbey of *Montmajour* (which may be reached by a station on the little

line of railway to *Fontvielle*), said to have been founded in the VI. c. and rebuilt in the XI. c. and XII. c. It is one of the most romantically beautiful spots in the south of France, and a paradise for artists. A hill, wooded on one side and precipitous on the other, rises abruptly from the plain, overgrown in part by the curious laburnum, which flowers in the winter, and is said to have been introduced by the Saracens. A concierge will be found in a cottage to the l. of the high road. The immense romanesque church, entered by a beautiful W. portal, was evidently planned on a still larger scale. The edifice is perfect, and intensely simple, but little of the internal fittings remain, except some of the ancient altars. On the l. of the nave is a large chamber, and from the l. transept opens a gothic XIV. c. chapel, founded by one Bertrand, and containing his beautiful tomb. Beneath the church is a vast crypt, of the XI. c., with altars under the different chapels of the apse, a great portion of the walls being hewn out of the solid rock. The XII. c. cloister is one of the most beautiful in the country. At the entrance from the church are two fine gothic tombs, and opening from the cloister is a vast chapter house.

Near the church rises a noble fortress tower, erected by Pons de l'Orme in 1369, a grand feature in all distant views of Montmajour. It was built to defend the S.W., the only point on which the rock was open to attack, at the time when Montmajour was an island, only communicating with Arles by a chaussée. The magnificent buildings of the palatial monastery are now completely ruined, but are grand in their decay.

Near the further gate, by a relief of S. Peter in the wall, a staircase winds down through rocks and flowering shrubs to the very curious caverned *Chapelle de S. Pierre*, which is perhaps as early as the VI. c. It is of rude masonry, sustained by arches, with low pillars and very richly wrought capitals, and ends in a miniature apse. On the l. is a ruder and probably earlier aisle, with remains of an altar. A door by the apse leads to four little chambers, which are supposed to have formed the hermitage of S. Trophime. In the outer, the penitents are supposed to have waited on a bench along the caverned wall. A second tiny room, communicating with the adjoining cell by a window, is believed to have been the confessional of S. Trophime, and the room

within, overhung low by the rock, to have contained his bed : from the little outer gallery the penitents descended, by a way now blocked up.

On the E. of the abbey is the curious xi. c. *Chapelle de S. Croix*, a Greek cross, with three apses, built in xi. c. by the abbot Rambert.

‘Une rotonde au centre communique avec trois culs de four dont l’un est l’apside et les deux autres tiennent lieu de transept.



CHAPELLE DE S. CROIX, MONTMAJOUR.

Une espèce de narthex ou de vestibule précède la coupole dont il est séparé par une porte intérieure ; il occupe ainsi la place de la nef. Les voûtes et toutes les ouvertures sont cintrées, mais il n’y a aucun ornement à l’intérieur de cette chapelle, si ce n’est quelques moulures légères.’—*Prosper Mérimée*.

In the rock near the chapel, a number of tombs are hewn out, sometimes with a separate hole to fit the head, sometimes for two persons, but all of small dimensions, and with a usual depth of three feet. Local tradition says that these were made for Saracens killed in battle here, but it is more probable that

they have never been used at all. Inside the chapel, an inscription in uncial letters describes it as built by Charlemagne in thanksgiving for a victory which he gained over the Saracens near this—a very early fraud, as Charlemagne never had any Saracens to fight in this country, notwithstanding which he is chosen as the popular hero, instead of Charles Martel.

Opposite Montmajour, about 1 k. distant, rises the rock of *Cordes*, another of the islets in the marsh, with some remains of an encircling rampart and towers. On the summit, towards the N., is an artificial cavern, entered by an inclined plane, which leads to chambers cut in the rock, supposed to have been used as a treasure-store by Saracens: in the country it is called *La Grotte des Fées*.

[At *Barbegal*, 2 leagues from Arles, are remains of the aqueduct by which the Roman town was supplied.]

Pleasant little carriages at 12 fr. or 15 fr. a day may be engaged at Arles for a series of excursions of great interest.

Pedestrians may take the little line of rail from Arles to *Fontvieille*, famous for its quarries, and walk from thence to (10 k.) Les Baux, the Petra of France; but it is pleasanter to drive thither, passing under Montmajour, which those pressed for time may visit on the way.

Turning up a gorge in the melancholy limestone hills to the N. (at 19 k. from Arles), the rock-hewn remains of *Les Baux* come in sight, hanging, like an eagle's nest, to the rugged mountain side, and so one with it that it is difficult to distinguish which of the strange towers are building and which are natural rock. It is still more difficult to believe now that there was ever a very flourishing city at Les Baux—now one of the most utterly deserted as well as one of the most curious places in the S. of France. 'Vieux comme les rochers de Baux' is a proverb. Founded on the site of a Gaulish town, Les Baux became a refuge from the Saracens, and as early as the x. c. it was one of the most important strongholds in the country. In the xii. c., the lords of Baux possessed seventy-nine towns and castles. They held here one of the famous



'Courts of Love' for which Provence was celebrated, and simultaneously or consecutively bore the titles of Princes of Orange, Counts of Provence, Kings of Arles and of Vienne, and Emperors of Constantinople. But from the time when Barral des Baux treacherously sold the republic of Arles, of which he was chief magistrate, to Charles d'Anjou, the fortunes of Baux began to fail, and the town, which once possessed 4,000 inhabitants, to become unpeopled. Now there are 'whole streets' and nobody to live in them; churches and



LES BAUX.

nobody to pray in them; hospitals and nobody to be sick in them; cemeteries and nobody to be buried in them. The picturesqueness has been recently a little destroyed by the formation of a new road and the destruction of the curious Arles gate; still, the spot is indescribably beautiful as well as curious.

'Le rocher des Baux est enfermé lui-même dans une espèce de cirque, que se rappelait Dante en dérivant les cercles de l'enfer.'  
—*Élisée Reclus.*

‘La roche, sur laquelle la ville est construite, est un calcaire très tendre qui se taille avec facilité, mais se décompose et tombe en efflorescence à l’air, d’une manière bizarre, formant ainsi des cavités plus ou moins profondes et de l’aspect le plus varié. Sa mollesse et sa compacité ont donné sans doute aux premiers habitants du bourg l’idée de se tailler une ville dans le roc vif, au lieu d’élever des maisons et des murailles en entassant pierres sur pierres. L’ancien château, dont les restes occupent une partie considérable dans l’emplacement de la ville, est en grande partie construit, ou plutôt travaillé de cette manière. Des tours ont été faites en évidant de grands carrés de roc ; les murailles sont des tranches de pierre d’un seul morceau, coupées à même sol qu’on a déblayé à l’intérieur. Un grand nombre de chambres et même de maisons ont été pratiquées de la même manière. Il est impossible de décrire les ruines étranges que forment ces masses énormes en s’écroulant. En général, c’est par la base que manquent d’abord ces tours, ces maisons monolithes ; la couche inférieure de la roche se décomposant plus vite que les supérieures, elles tombent tout d’une masse presque sans changer de forme. Une grande tour, dont le soubassement est brisé, et qui s’appuie, comme un grand arbre coupé au pied, sur une autre masse de rocher, présente l’aspect le plus pittoresque. Dans quelques parties, on reconnaît des réparations anciennes, un travail de maçonnerie par lequel on a consolidé des tranches de roche qui menaçaient ruine.

‘Rien de plus extraordinaire que cette ville qui pourrait contenir au moins six mille âmes, et dans laquelle on a peine à trouver un habitant. Beaucoup de maisons ont des façades élégantes dans le style de la renaissance ou du xv. c. siècle ; mais les fenêtres sont brisées, les toits à moitié détruits, les portes sans serrure. Une demi-douzaine de mendiants composent toute la population. J’ai remarqué sur un mur cette inscription : *Poste aux Lettres*. Mais qui peut écrire aux Baux ? Il n’y a pas même un cabaret. On m’a dit que la plus belle maison de la ville se louerait pour dix francs l’année, si on pouvait en découvrir le propriétaire.’—*Prosper Mérimée*.

‘La pauvre ville—l’ancienne cour d’amour de Provence, qui donna des podestats à Arles, des princes à Orange, des stat-

houders à la Haye, et des rois à Amsterdam et à Londres—est morte, entièrement morte : morte d'abandon, morte d'épuisement, morte de faim, parce qu'une route qui conduisait d'Orgon à Arles, et qui était l'artère qui menait le sang à son coeur, s'est éloignée d'elle ou perdue elle-même quand a commencé de s'éteindre la splendeur de la Provence ; et qu'alors tout lui a manqué pour vivre, comme à une jeune fille qui vivait par l'amour et dont l'amour s'est retiré.

'Alors, peu à peu une partie des habitants, lassée de sa solitude, s'est éloignée pour aller habiter Orgon, Tarascon ou Arles ; l'autre, fidèle et religieuse au toit paternel, s'y est éteint dans l'isolement. Nul n'est venu ni remplacer les exiles ni succéder aux morts, et la cité sans habitants a fini par rester seule debout, ouverte, abandonnée, triste et toute en deuil sur sa route, et pareille à une mendicante qui pleure et demande l'aumône au bord du chemin.

'Nous entrâmes dans les rues ; portes et fenêtres étaient ouvertes. Nous vîmes des maisons dont le portail, soutenu par des colonnes de la renaissance, était décoré d'un écusson baronial ; nous vîmes des hôpitaux où il n'y avait plus ni gardiens ni malades, ni gémissements ni derniers soupirs. Nous vîmes un ancien château taillé dans le roc, sans doute en mémoire de ces paroles évangéliques ; "Heureux l'homme qui a bâti sa maison sur un rocher !" Mais le rocher, arrondi en tours, taillé en appartements, creusé en poternes, avait manqué sur sa base, et le château monolithe était tombé tout d'une pièce, comme si la main d'un géant l'eût renversé. La seule chose qui se fût conservée à peu près intacte, c'était le cimetière.'—*Alexandre Dumas.*

On entering the town (Hotel : *Monte Carlo*—tolerable for those who can rough it, and itself very curious with its vaulted salle and old fireplace), we find nothing older than the XII. c., but whole streets of half-ruined renaissance houses. As we ascend, the chief of them, a beautiful sculptured fragment on l., with the inscription 'Post tenebras lux,' belongs to a Protestant temple of xv. c. Here and there an exquisite vaulted hall appears, open to the air on one side. In front of the XII. c. church is a terrace with a splendid view. The old palace of the Porcelet family

close by, is occupied by the Soeurs de S. Joseph. At the end of the street on r. is a vast vaulted rectangular building of great beauty. Hence we reach the open downs, and may turn through masses of ruin, sometimes of rich architecture, sometimes mere massy fragments, to the château, the lower halls of which are cut out of the rock. The little vaulted chapel of S. Catherine remains. The view from the summit of the rocky honeycomb is indescribably grand. The Mediterranean glimmers, a long line of silver, beyond thirty miles of billowy purple mountains, in the hollows of which lakes and rivers are shining, and in the fore-



VIEW FROM LES BAUX.

ground rise masses of the most imposing ruin imaginable—turrets, pinnacles, arches, battlements, either hewn out of the rock or built against it; roofless cellars with fragments of sculptured columns, staircases leading to nothing, open chambers yawning in mid air—all weird and fantastic beyond description.

On a rock below the castle is a curious relief known as *Les Trois Maries*, supposed to commemorate the visit of the three Marys, who, being repulsed from the town, punished it with a pestilence, during which this relief was carved to propitiate them. It is annually visited by all the inhabitants in procession. A male figure may be discovered amongst the females of the relief, and



it is probably a Roman work. On a neighbouring rock is an illegible inscription. Amongst the hills on the W. of the town is the *Grotte des Fées*, described by Mistral in his poem of *Mireille*.

'The Les Baux in their heyday were patterns of feudal nobles. They warred incessantly with the Counts of Provence, archbishops and burghers of Arles, queens of Naples, kings of Arragon; crusading, pillaging, betraying, spending their substance on the sword and buying it again by deeds of valour or imperial acts of favour, tuning troubadour harps, presiding at courts of love—they filled a large page in the history of Southern France. The Les Baux were very superstitious. In the fulness of their prosperity they restricted the number of their dependent towns, or places *baussenques*, to seventy-nine, because these numbers in combination were thought to be of good omen to their house. Berral les Baux, Seigneur of Marseilles, was one day starting on a journey with his whole force to Avignon. He met an old woman herb-gathering at daybreak and said, "Mother, hast thou seen a crow or other bird?" "Yea," answered the crone, "on the trunk of a dead willow." Berral counted upon his fingers the day of the year, and turned bridle. With troubadours of name and note they had dealings, but not always to their own advantage, as the following story testifies. When the Baux and Berengers were struggling for the countship of Provence, Raymond Berenger, by his wife's counsel, went, attended by troubadours, to meet the Emperor Frederick at Milan. There he sued for the investiture and ratification of Provence. His troubadours sang and charmed Frederick; and then the Emperor, for the joy he had in them, wrote his celebrated lines beginning—

"Plas mi cavalier Francez."

And when Berenger made his request he met with no refusal. Hearing thereof, the lords of Baux came down in wrath with a clangour of armed men. But music had already gained the day; and where the Phoebus of Provence had shone, the Aeolus of storm-shaken Les Baux was powerless. Again, when Blacas, a knight of Provence, died, the great Sordello chaunted one of his most fiery hymns, bidding the princes of Christendom flock round and eat the heart of their dead lord. "Let Rabaude des Baux,"

cries the bard, with a sarcasm that is clearly meant, but at this distance unintelligible, "take also a good piece, for she is fair and good and truly virtuous; let her keep it well who knows so well to husband her own weal." But the poets were not always adverse to the house of Baux. Fouquet, the beautiful and gentle melodist whom Dante placed in paradise, served Adelaisie, wife of Bérard, with long service of unhappy love, and wrote upon her death, "The Complaint of Bérard des Baux for Adelaisie." Guillaume de Cabestan loved Berangère des Baux, and was so loved by her that she gave him a philtre to drink, whereof he sickened and grew mad. Many more troubadours are cited as having frequented the castle of Les Baux, and among the members of the princely house are several poets.

'Some of them were renowned for beauty. We hear of a Cécile, called Passe Rose, because of her exceeding loveliness; also of an unhappy François who, after passing eighteen years in prison, yet won the grace and love of Joan of Naples by his charms. But the real temper of this fierce tribe was not shown among troubadours, or in the courts of love and beauty. The stern and barren rock from which they sprang, and the comet of their scutcheon, are the true symbols of their nature. History records no end of their ravages and slaughters. It is a tedious catalogue of blood—how one prince put to fire and sword the whole town of Courthezon; how another was stabbed in prison by his wife; how a third besieged the castle of his niece, and sought to undermine her chamber, knowing her the while to be in child-bed; how a fourth was flayed alive outside the walls of Avignon. There is nothing terrible, splendid, and savage, belonging to feudal history, of which an example may not be found in the annals of Les Baux, as narrated by their chronicler, Jules Canouge.'—*J. A. Symonds.*

The excursion to Les Baux may be continued to (25 k. from Arles) S. Rémy. See p. 390.]

[On the line from Arles to Nîmes is—

18 k. *S. Gilles*, of which the ancient name was Rhoda, whence it has been assumed that the place was a Greek colony, founded by Rhodians. Only a few fragments remain to attest the Roman origin of the place. In the middle-ages it took a name from

S. Egidius, who founded its abbey in the VI. c. The town rose to such importance that the Counts of Toulouse called themselves also Comtes de S. Gilles, and the head priory of the Hospitallers of S. John of Jerusalem was here. Raymond VI., Comte de Toulouse, did public penance at S. Gilles in 1209 for the murder of the legate Pierre de Castelnau, which was imputed to him, and for his leniency to the Albigenses. Here also Guy Foulques was born, who became pope, as Clement IV., from 1265 to 1268.

The sea has long receded from S. Gilles, which was a seaport in constant use from Phœcean times, and, in the XII. c., before the creation of the port of Aigues-Mortes, was the place whence most of the pilgrims for Palestine embarked.

The *Church of S. Gilles* is the *ne plus ultra* of Byzantine art. Planned on a gigantic scale, it was abandoned before it was finished, in consequence probably of the evils of war, of want of funds, and decline of religious fervour. The small existing church stands in the midst of a mass of work begun in the romanesque style. An inscription on the S. wall has the date 1116. Belonging to the original structure are the portal; a portion of the principal nave and the r. aisle of the gothic church; part of the wall of the l. aisle and transept; and some of the substructions of the choir and r. transept. Perhaps to these we may add the base of the great walls and the pillars of the existing church.

The façade is like a great bas-relief in marble and stone, so entirely is it covered with sculptured friezes, columns, and statues, and imitations of all things vegetable and animal.

‘This building exhibits the most lavish introduction of antique fragments in its marble columns, with their delicately executed corinthian capitals, connected after the antique fashion by architraves, the latter produced by a broad horizontal band, extending along the whole façade, and forming the headpiece of the door at the three portals. This band in its full extent is treated as an uninterrupted relief frieze, which, in the spirit of antique sarcophagus reliefs, is covered with scenes from the Passion of Christ—from the Entry into Jerusalem, which forms the headpiece of the northern portal, to the Resurrection, at the southern portal; the Last Supper and the Washing of S. Peter’s Feet being ingeniously contrived to occupy the broad space above

the main portal. As the artist required a higher space for the Crucifixion, he introduced this scene in the pediment of the southern portal; and, corresponding with it, above the northern portal he placed the enthroned Virgin and Child receiving the adoration of the three kings; while above the main portal appears the representation of the Judge of the World in the midst of the symbols of the Evangelists. Lastly, in the lower compartments of the façade, he introduced the almost life-size statues of the Twelve Apostles in niches, framed by fluted pilasters. While in these the typical and severe element prevails, the small relief representations on the architraves show all the freshness and life of the period; not, it is true, in the still conventional heads, but in the gestures and attitudes of the figures. Scenes such as the Expulsion of the Buyers and Sellers from the Temple, the Washing of Peter's Feet, the Scourging, and the Bearing of the Cross, are full of dramatic expression.'—*Lübke*.

'Ce luxe de la sculpture romano-byzantine excite les plaintes du spiritualisme ascétique. S. Bernard réclame vivement contre ces simulacres bizarres, ces "singes grimaçants, ces centaures furieux," tous ces rêves de l'imagination des artistes qui altèrent la sévérité et troublent en quelque sorte la paix des lieux réguliers.'—*Henri Martin, 'Hist. de France.'*

The figures on the façade are rude, but very vigorous. Over that of S. Jude is inscribed, 'Brunus me fecit.' The abbot used to administer justice seated between the lions of the portal, whence many charters begin with the formula, '*Domino N. N. sedente inter leones.*'

The upper church has lost its beauty by the shortening of the pillars, the erection of feeble segmental arches, and a vaulting of 1655; the ancient capitals of the pillars have been used a second time. The crypt, which underlies the whole of the nave, is vast and well lighted, its arches, of great span, being supported by massive square fluted pillars. The tomb of S. Gilles, and the Roman cippus which he used as an altar, are preserved here.

'Les voûtes sont en anse de panier avec de fortes nervures carrées qui se croisent de deux en deux piliers, et dont les angles saillants sont taillés en dents de scie. On remarque le



même ornement à l'autre extrémité de l'église, dans ce qui reste des arcades du transept gauche. La courbe des voûtes en arc très surbaissé, prouve que cette forme n'était point inconnue dans la période romane. C'est, avec les arcades du cloître de Montmajour, le seul exemple bien authentique que j'ai rencontré.'—*Prosper Mérimée.*

Behind the church, at the intersection of the l. wall and transept, is the famous *Vis de S. Gilles*, a newel-staircase, of admirable construction, which gave access to the triforium, its peculiarity consisting in its being covered by a circular vault which curves with the curve of the steps, forming a kind of corkscrew or annular vault—S. Giles's screw.<sup>1</sup> Such was the celebrity of the masonry of this staircase, that it was formerly a point of pilgrimage for all workers in stone, and it has given a name to the most elegant type of spiral stair vaulting.

'À gauche de la vis, on observe la moitié d'un oeil de boeuf, dont l'ouverture représente en profil deux cones tronqués opposés à leur sommet. Je pense qu'au lieu de fenêtres, c'étaient de semblables baies qui devaient éclairer les collatéraux. Les claveaux qui entourent cet oeil de boeuf sont composés de pierre de teintes différentes alternant ensemble; c'est un genre d'ornementation tout oriental. Son ouverture est très petite par rapport à la grandeur des claveaux, qui portent deux moulures concentriques, l'une de perles, l'autre de palmettes, toutes les deux remarquables comme fidèlement imitées de l'antique. À côté, on voit un chapiteau orné de quatre aigles, une corniche, des retombées d'arceaux d'un style capricieux, mais d'une égale élégance.'—*Prosper Mérimée.*

There is a romanesque house at S. Gilles of the same date as the church.]

[A singular excursion—only worth while to ecclesiologists—may be made from Arles to (36 k.; carriage, 35fr.) *Saintes-Maries-de-la-Mer*, the capital of the strange district of *La Camargue*, a triangular delta, dusty in summer and half submerged in winter. It is situated between the Grand Rhône on the E. and Petit Rhône

<sup>1</sup> *Guardian*, March 25, 1855.

on the W., 'les Rhônes morts,' the two branches into which the river divides at Arles. In the northern part it is peopled by great herds of half wild cattle, by *manades* of the buffaloes intended for the bull-fights of the southern villages, and above 3,000 of the white horses which are said to descend from those left by the Saracens; but in the southern part it is only occupied by immense plains of rushes extending around *La Pichoto mar* or Petite mer, the vast *Étang de Vaccars* or *Valcarlès*, once a bay of the Mediterranean, deriving its present name from the vast herds of cattle which feed on the salt vegetation on its banks.

'Il est très probable que la région n'était point jadis aussi malsaine qu'aujourd'hui, car on a trouvé des ruines romaines sur les deux rives de l'étang de Vaccarès, à l'O., au N., et au S.E., en des régions marécageuses presque complètement inhabitables de nos jours. Lorsque le Rhône pouvait s'épancher librement sur les terres riveraines et les recouvrie d'une mer temporaire, tous les débris corrompus étaient emportés vers la Méditerranée; et quand les eaux laissaient émerger le sol, elles s'écoulaient par des canaux qu'elles creusaient elles-mêmes en renouvelant les terres. Les hautes digues qui défendent actuellement la Camargue contre les invasions du fleuve retiennent çà et là les eaux en funestes marécages et nuisent en outre beaucoup à l'agriculture en empêchant le fleuve d'apporter de nouvelles alluvions. Quand les digues sont rompues, la valeur des pêcheries de l'intérieur est décuplée par le soudain assainissement des eaux.'—*Élisée Reclus*.

An excellent road leads to Les Saintes-Maries, between dykes overgrown with white ranunculus, across a plain covered with corn and vines. Here and there we pass a large *mas*, or farm, often defended by a tower, and with its attendant chapel, grove of trees, and hamlet, often terribly devastated by fever and ague in the hot season. As we near the sea, a long grove of Umbrella pines, salt marshes with their grey, blighted vegetation, and the great church stranded like the castle of the Chigi near the shore, recall the approach to Ostia and Castel-Fusano. Musquitoes hang in clouds above the low tamarisks of the marsh.

*S. Maries* (miserable inn, dear; swarms of mosquitoes

very early in the year), formerly situated on an island, was occupied by the Romans. It enjoyed great prosperity in the xv. c. under King René, who gave important privileges to the place where Mary, wife of Cleopas, sister of the Virgin; Mary Salome, mother of James and John; their servant Sara; Lazarus, Martha, and Mary Magdalen, are said to have landed in France on their flight from the persecution in Judea. The family of Bethany went further inland, but the two elder Marys are supposed to have remained, and to be buried there.



LES-SAINTES-MARIES.

‘Bâties sur le bord de la mer les Saintes-Maries ressembleraient de loin à de simples dunes de sables blanchissant près des vagues, si l’antique église, qui les domine n’arrêtait les regards sur ses tours crénelées. À la fois phare, temple et citadelle, cette immense église semble parler à la terre la grande voix du passé.

‘Amoureux, comme tous les peuples de l’Orient, des couleurs vives et crues, les Saintins recouvrent chaque année leurs maisons d’un épais badigeon de chaux; frappée par un soleil ardent, cette éclatante blancheur se dessine nettement sur le ciel. Les ruines branlantes qui entrecourent de leurs pierres noirâtres les demeures modernes; les rejetons de figuiers et les touffes de salicors qui croissent librement entre les murailles; les draps de

toile qui sont étendus d'une fenêtre à l'autre, au-dessus de chaque rue, pour tempérer la chaleur, et qui se balancent dans l'espace comme de grands éventails; la somnolence de la ville, dont les maisons silencieuses ressemblent à des tombeaux groupés autour de l'église; les grandes jarres qui, pareilles aux amphores antiques, conservent dans un coin du logis la provision d'eau de la famille; enfin le morne et sévère paysage qui se déroule jusqu'à la mer, donnent à la ville des saintes tout l'aspect d'une cité africaine.

'Assoupie dans la vieille légende, muette et décrépète au milieu d'une plaine mélancolique et déserté, la capitale de la Camargne



LES-SAINTE-MARIES FROM THE SOUTH.

a tout l'air d'une nécropole. Son église délabrée, dont les murs jaunis semblent planer sur la contrée entière, est bien celle qui convient à la population triste et hâve de ce pays désolé.'—*Figuier, 'Le Gardien de la Camargue.'*

The exceedingly curious church which contains the shrine of the Marys was built in XII. c. on the site of a church destroyed by the Saracens. Its long, vast, single nave is machicolated and battlemented externally. In the apse it contains three sanctuaries, one above the other. In the crypt is the tomb of Sara: the apse itself serves as the choir of the church, and above it, in the triforium, are the relics of the Marys. In the centre of the nave is a well, made to supply the defenders of the church with water in case of its being attacked by pirates, to whose ravages



the place was especially exposed by its position ; the water of the well is supposed to cure madness.

The village of S. Maries is most primitive, many of the houses being built of reeds from the marsh. There are delightful sands behind it on the flat shore of the Mediterranean, but the plague of musquitoes is terrific except quite in the winter.

‘ Dans le voisinage de la mer s’étendent les *sansouïres*, anciens fonds marins d’où l’eau s’est évaporée, ne laissant que des couches salines dépourvues de toute végétation ; c’est déjà le désert. Les hommes, pâtres, pêcheurs, ou douaniers, sont rares dans ces solitudes fiévreuses ; par contre, nulle contrée de la France n’est plus riche en oiseaux d’espèces diverses, précisément parce que l’homme ne vient pas les troubler ; nombre d’oiseaux qui émigrent en Afrique ou qui en reviennent se plaisent dans ces espaces, loin des villes bruyantes ; on y voit même flamants. Le castor, cet animal que l’homme a fait disparaître de presque tous les autres pays de l’Europe, se rencontre aussi dans les digues du petit Rhône, où l’on n’ose trop la poursuivre, de peur de ruiner la levée. “ De maçon qu’il était jadis, le castor s’est fait mineur.”’  
—*Elisée Reclus*.

[Artists should make a point of visiting the Pont Flavien, near S. Chamas, between the two trains from Arles to Marseilles.]

Soon after leaving Arles, the railway enters the vast weird, wind-tormented plain of *La Crau*, the Campus Lapideus of the Romans, covered with stones. Here Hercules, returning from Iberia, is supposed to have been stopped by the two giants, Albion and Bergion, sons of Neptune, and Jupiter came to his rescue by crushing them with a shower of stones.

‘ Géologiquement parlant, la dispersion de ces cailloux alpins dans le bassin du Rhône est un événement récent, conséquence de la fusion des glaciers qui comblaient les vallées alpines. À une époque chronologiquement très reculée, mais géologiquement très moderne, l’embouchure du Rhône était à Arles, et à la place

occupée par le delta de la Camargue, un golfe pénétrait dans l'intérieur des terres : il était limité à l'E. par la Crau, à l'O. par les collines qui s'étendent de Beaucaire à S. Gilles. Depuis cette époque, le fleuve, changeant de cours et se promenant pour ainsi dire dans le delta qu'il avait créé, a comblé le golfe, et maintenant ce delta s'avance dans la mer, gagnant continuellement sur elle et dépassant les contours du rivage formé par les terrains plus anciens.'—*C. Martins.*

The phenomena of mirage are often seen in the desert of the Crau. Recently it has been brought under partial cultivation, and the effect of the curious stony plain upon travellers is neutralised by a belt of cypresses planted for many miles along the line.

778 k. *Salon.* The church of *S. Laurent* contains the tomb of the famous astrologer, Michel de Notredame, called Nostradamus, *ob.* 1566. The favourite of Catherine de Médicis, he was visited here by Charles IX. His poet-son César erected the bust upon his tomb, inscribed—  
'Clarissimi ossa Michaelis Nostrodami unius omnium mortalium judicio digni, cujus pene divino calamo, totius orbis, ex astronum inflexu futuri eventus conscriberentur.'  
Salon formerly stood on the edge of the Crau, now separated from it by richly-cultivated land fertilized by the waters of the Durance, supplied through the *Canal de Craponne*, named after its creator, Adam de Craponne.

810 k. *Miramas.* The village, 3 k. distant, is built on a rock pierced with caverns and crowned by a ruined castle.

[For the line from Miramas to Cavaillon see p. 384.]

[A line diverges from Miramas on the W. side of the vast *Étang de Berre*, through a saline and marshy district, to—

21 k. *Fos*, which has a XIV. c. castle on Roman foundations,

and a XIII. c. church. It is situated on the canal from Arles to Bouc, which almost follows the line of a canal formed by the legions of Marius, 104 A.C., called *Fossae Marianae*, whence the name of the village.

26 k. *Port-de-Bouc*, consisting of the two villages of *Bouc* or *Le Canal*, and *Le Lège*. At the entrance of the port are ramparts by Vauban, and a lighthouse in a tower of XII. c.

33 k. *Martigues* (Hotel: *du Cours*), which originally occupied



PONT FLAVIEN, S. CHAMAS.

a little island called Βλασκόν. Joanna I. of Naples made it into a vicomté, and Henri IV. into a principality. The existing town occupies a number of islets connected by iron bridges, and is considered to be 'la Venise Provençale.' The line of the marshes rejoins the main line at Pas-les-Lanciers.]

815 k. *S. Chamas* (Hotel: *Arène*—a clean country inn). The little town is prettily situated under a rocky hill crowned by the chapel of *Notre Dame de Miséricorde*, built after the pestilence of 1720. Passing through the

town, by the road to Aix, about 2 k. from the station, we find a rocky platform, where the steep bed of the little river Touloubre is crossed by the *Pont Flavien*, a bridge with a triumphal corinthian arch at either extremity, built with a bequest of one Donnius Flavus by his executors, Donnius Vena and Attius Rufus. The yellow buildings are as fresh as in their first years, and contrast most picturesquely with the grey rocks, partially overhung with ivy. The bridge is seen (on r.) from the railway, after leaving S. Chamas, but such a view gives us no idea of its great beauty and grace.

829 k. *Berre*, the most important place on the vast inland lake—‘*l'Étang de Berre*.’

836 k. *Rognac*.

[Hence there is a branch of 26 k. to Aix (see ch. x.), passing—7 k. *Vélaux*. To the l. is *Ventabren*, with ruins of a palace of Queen Joanna.

12 k. *Roquefavour*, celebrated for its aqueduct, constructed 1842-76 by the town of Marseilles, to bring thither the waters of the Durance. It crosses the valley upon three ranges of round-headed arches separated by buttresses.]

840 k. *Vitrolles*, overlooking the *Étang de Lion*. It occupies the site of Villa Leonis, the town of Lion, which gave a name to the Gulf of Lyons. A fragment of the old castle remains, approached by stairs cut in the rock.

845 k. *Pas-des-Lanciers*, whence the line to Martigues diverges E. (see p. 421). On emerging from the Tunnel de la Nerte, the Mediterranean appears on r., and Marseilles, overlooked by its Chapelle de la Garde, and its islands of the Château d’If, the rocky Pomègue and Ratonneau, are seen in the distance.



'En parvenant aux derrières hauteurs qui dominent Marseille, on est saisi subitement d'un spectacle magnifique, qui, enflammant Joseph Vernet, lui révéla son génie et sa vocation. Deux grandes chaînes de rochers s'entr'ouvrent, embrassent un vaste espace, et, se prolongeant dans la mer, viennent expirer très-avant dans les flots. Marseille est enfermée dans cette enceinte. Lorsque, arrivant du Nord, on parvient sur la première chaîne, on aperçoit tout à coup ce bassin immense ; son étendue, son éblouissante clarté vous saisissent d'abord. Bientôt après on est frappé de la forme du sol et de sa singulière végétation. Il faut renoncer ici aux croupes arrondies, à la parure si riche et si verdoyante des bords de la Saône et de la Garonne. Une masse immense de calcaire gris et azuré forme la première enceinte ; sur chaque hauteur s'élèvent des bouquets de pins d'Italie qui forment d'élégants parasols d'un vert sombre et presque noir. Des oliviers au vert pâle, à la taille moyenne, descendent le long des coteaux et contrastent, par leur petite masse arrondie, avec la stature élancée et le superbe dôme des pins. À leurs pieds croît une végétation basse, épaisse et grisâtre. C'est la sauge piquante et le thym odorant, qui, foulés sous les pieds, répandent un parfum si doux et si fort.

'Au centre du bassin, Marseille, presque cachée par un coteau long et fuyant, se montre de profil, et sa silhouette, tantôt cachée dans la vapeur, tantôt apparaissant entre les ondulations du sol, vient se terminer dans l'azur des mers par la belle tour de Saint Jean. Au couchant, enfin, s'étend la Méditerranée, qui pousse dans les terres des lames argentées. La Méditerranée, avec les îles de Pomègue et de Ratonneau, avec ses flots calmes ou agités, éclatants ou sombres, et son horizon immense où l'oeil revient et erre sans cesse en décrivant des arcs de cercle éternels.'—*Thiers, 'Le Midi de la France.'*

The hill sides are all sprinkled with cottage-villas, called *bastides*, before reaching—

863 k. *Marseilles*.

(Omnibus: those of Hôtels du Louvre, de Noailles, de Marseille, and des Colonies, 1 fr. 50 c.; the others, 1 fr.

*Carriages* with two places, 1 fr. 25 c. by day, and 1 fr. 50 c.

by night for the course ; 2 fr. 50 c. the hour. With four places, 1 fr. 75 c. by day, and 2 fr. by night the course ; 2 fr. 75 c. by day, and 3 fr. 50 c. by night, the hour. Each package, 25 c.

Hotels : *de Noailles*, 24 Rue de Noailles : *de Marseille*, 28 Rue de Noailles ; *du Louvre et de la Paix*, Cannebière prolongée—these are the three leading hotels in Marseilles, all sumptuous and expensive ; *des Colonies*, 15 Rue Vacon (close to the Cannebière), is old-fashioned, and very clean and comfortable ; *du Petit-Louvre*, 16 Rue Cannebière ; *de l'Univers*, 1 Rue du Jeune Anacharsis.

*Post Office*, 53 Rue Grignan.]

A drive of two or three hours will usually be considered quite enough to give an impression of Marseilles—the metropolis of the Mediterranean shore. The town has few objects of interest. No one would linger here for pleasure. The air is clear and the climate dry ; but Marseilles is unendurable when the mistral blows—the terrible wind, to which the ancient inhabitants erected altars, as to a savage divinity.

Marseille a livré au mistral le dernier grain de sa poussière,' says Méry. It is not, however, entirely unwelcome, as it purifies the air, and drives away the fevers engendered by the dirtiness of the streets in this and in many other southern towns.

The city is divided by two great arteries under varying names, and its most central point may be said to be the Rue Cannebière, which, with its continuation of the Rue de Noailles, is the handsomest street in Marseilles, and the principal street leading to the old port. To the N. of this is the old town, in which the principal artery is the modern Rue de la République, whilst to many of its narrow tortuous older streets a description of the last century may still be applied.

'On risque d'être couvert d'ordures dans les rues étroites,

mal pavées et fort sales. Faute de commodités, on jette tout par les fenêtres, sans autre avertissement que le mot : *Passerés*, qui arrive souvent trop tard.'—*'Voyage du Père Labat, 1709.'*

The Latin name of the town was Massilia ; the Provençals of the middle-ages called it Marsillo. It is believed to have been of Phœcean origin.

'L'an 600 avant J. C., un vaisseau, parti de la ville ionienne de Phocée, jeta l'ancre dans un golfe de la côte gallo-ligurienne, à l'est des bouches du Rhône. Ces rivages appartenâient aux Ségobriges, un des clans gaulois qui s'étaient maintenus dans le pays depuis l'établissement des Ligures. Nann, chef ou roi des Ségobriges, mariait ce jour-là sa fille ; il fit aux étrangers un accueil hospitalier, et les invita au festin. Suivant le coutume de ces peuples, la jeune vierge choisissait librement un époux entre ses prétendants réunis autour de la table de son père. Sur la fin du repas, d'après l'usage, la fille de Nann paraît, une coupe à la main ; elle promène ses regards sur l'assemblée, s'arrête en face du chef des Grecs et lui tend la coupe.

'Nann crut reconnaître, dans le choix de sa fille, l'ordre des puissances célestes ; il salua son hôte comme son gendre, et lui donna pour dot la plage où les Grecs avaient pris terre. L'heureux voyageur construisit sur une petite presqu'île du golfe une ville qu'il appela Massalie.'—*Henri Martin, 'Hist. de France.'*

The early Marseilles was a republic governed by a council of fifteen. Having risen to great power and importance, it assisted the Romans to destroy Carthage and conquer Liguria. But, having taken part with Pompey, it underwent a terrible siege from Caesar, who destroyed its fortifications, deprived it of its colonies, and occupied it by a Roman garrison. The town early received Christianity, some say from Lazarus of Bethany, others from S. Victor, martyred c. 288. Ravaged by Visigoths, Burgundians, Saracens, and pirates, the x. c. found it almost in ruins ; but in 1112 it re-

constituted itself a republic, with the exception of the 'ville haute,' which was ruled by the bishop, and the faubourg governed by the abbot of S. Victor. Thus, in the middle-ages, there were three separate towns. In 1256 they were taken by Charles d'Anjou, in 1423 by Alphonso of Arragon; but in 1524 the courage and devotion of its women saved it when it was besieged by the Connétable de Bourbon. Under Louis XIV. it was united to France.

The custom prevailed here till recently of parading an ox with a little John Baptist through the streets three days before the Fête Dieu. Nurses used to make their children kiss the muzzle of the ox to preserve them from toothache.

The Cannebière takes its name from rope-walks, (Latin, *cannabis*; Provençal, *cannébe*). At its entrance is the *Bourse*, built 1852-60, from designs of Costa. 'Si Paris avait la Cannebière,' say the natives, 'Paris serait un petit Marseille.'

Those who spend a single day at Marseilles may (in the morning) take a carriage or the tramway cars (10 c.), marked 'Longchamp,' from the Bourse or Cannebière, by the handsome Rue de Noailles, and the Allée de Meilhan, planted with plane trees. On the l. we see the *Cours Belsunce*, commemorating Monsignor de Belsunce, a bishop who nobly devoted himself to the people during the plague of Oct. 1721. His statue, by Ramus, stands on the spot where, with bare feet, and a cord round his neck, he celebrated mass when the danger was at its height. The Cours ends in the *Arc de Triomphe*, built 1825-32, in honour of the conquerors of Trocadero.

The modern *Church of S. Vincent de Paul* is from designs of the Abbé Pouguet. It is a noble Latin cross,



with lofty aisles and chapels beyond them. The windows of the clerestory are filled with stained glass.

Here the Longchamp tramway may be taken again by the Cours du Chapitre and the Boulevard de Longchamp to the splendid *Palais des Arts*, built since 1860, from designs of the native architect, Henri Espérandieu. The waters of the Durance are made to fall between great bulls below a group of statuary in the central pavilion, which is connected by open semi-circular porticoes with two vast wings containing the museums. The parapet is feeble and the details are insignificant, but the rush of water over artificial rocks between masses of evergreens is magnificent, almost as fine as the fountain of Trevi before the change of government of Rome, and far finer than it is now. The Palais du Trocadero, at Paris, is a very feeble imitation of this building. The *Musée des Beaux Arts*, open daily from 8 to 12, and 2 to 6, except Mondays and Fridays, contains one of the best provincial collections in France, though it has such noble halls as are worthy of still better contents. The pictures are named, but not arranged in the order of their numbers. The lower halls are devoted to the French school. The central hall on the first floor contains works of the old masters, and some by native artists; we may notice, when we meet with them:—

52. *Françoise Duparc*. La Vieille.

54. *F. Duparc*. La Tricoteuse—a very charming picture.

133. *Nattier*. Mme. de Pompadour as Aurora.

166-171. Pictures of merit by the native artist, *Pierre Puget*.

237. *Tocqué*. Le Comte de S. Florentin.

238. *Domenico Feti*. The Guardian Angel.

\*331. *Perugino*. La Famille de la Vierge—the best picture in the collection. The Virgin and Child are throned

with S. Anne behind them. At the sides are SS. Mary Cleopas, Mary Salome, Joachim and Joseph, with six lovely children.

336. *Zurbaran*. A Franciscan Monk.

\*397. *Rubens*. Boar Hunt.

In the opposite wing are the *Collections of Natural History* (open on Sundays and Thursdays to the public, daily to strangers). They are admirably arranged. Perhaps owing to the position of Marseilles, the collection of conchology is unusually perfect. From the colonnades of the Palace is a fine view, Notre Dame de la Garde on its rugged hill rising above the houses. Behind, is a public garden, opening on the r. to the charming *Zoological Gardens* (1 fr.) with pleasant mountain views.

It will be best to take the tram back to the Cannebière, and one of the open omnibuses to La Joliette. Here, close to the docks, we see a huge mosque rising, which seems to have been imported direct from Constantinople. This is the modern *Cathedral*, nobly placed on a platform overlooking the port with its piers. It is built of alternate courses of white and pale green stone. The vast interior is even more like a mosque, with its yellow and red marble walls, its grey, black, and dark-red pillars, and its white marble cornices, balustrades, and capitals. The original architect of the cathedral was Léon Vaudoyer, upon whose death, in 1872, the work was entrusted to his pupil, Espérandieu, and when he died, two years after, to M. Révoil. The first stone was laid by the Prince President in 1852, though the work was not actually begun till 1858. Since then it has progressed very slowly. The cost has already amounted to twelve million francs, and two million

more will be required to complete the work, without counting the cost of furnishing, and an additional four hundred thousand for the sacristies. A fragment of the old cathedral of *La Major* (S. Marie Majeure) still exists (1890) on the N., but will be destroyed whenever the new edifice is finished. Here, and in other old churches of Marseilles, the Passion was played with marionnettes till 1760.

The Rue de la Cathédrale leads to *Place de Lenche*, containing a mansion which belonged to the family of Mirabeau, and where Louis XIV. and Anne of Austria stayed. Those who wish to see something of the old town may return towards the Cannebière by the Rue Caisserie and Grande Rue, which will take them under the Hôtel Dieu, or they may take an airier way by the W. side of the Vieux Port.

‘Le port est une de ces choses qu’on ne trouve que là.’—*Charles de Brosses*, 1739.

The bodies of the Mameluks, pensioners of Napoléon I., so cruelly murdered by the Marseillais, after the second fall of the Emperor, for having presumed to rejoice over his return from Elba, were thrown into this port.

In the afternoon<sup>1</sup> we may turn by the Quai du Rive Neuve along the E. side of the Port, to where, opposite the Bassin de Carénage, a long staircase leads up to a terrace, on which rise, like a fortress, the black, massive, castellated towers of the curious old *Church of S. Victor*, remnant of the famous abbey, founded by S. Cassien, in 410, destroyed by the Saracens, rebuilt 1040, again

<sup>1</sup> An omnibus runs from the Bourse to Notre Dame de la Garde, passing very near S. Victor.

destroyed, and finally rebuilt 1200-79, and fortified by Urban V., in 1350, of which date is the existing tower. In the catacombs of S. Victor it is said that S. Lazarus lived, and that S. Victor is buried with his companions in martyrdom. The crypt, belonging to the earliest church on the site, communicates with a number of galleries and



S. VICTOR, MARSEILLES.

chapels cut in the rock, and once contained many early Christian tombs, now absurdly removed to the Museum. Urban V. was abbot of S. Victor before he was pope.

The Rue d'Andoune and Boulevard Tellène lead up from S. Victor to the bare rocky hill—a noble position ill occupied by the ugly pilgrimage church of *Notre Dame de la Garde*, rebuilt 1864, on the site of an old chapel



of 1214, and filled with ex-votos. The view is exquisite over the town and sea.

‘Notre Dame de la Garde est à la fois un fort et une église. Le fort est en grand mépris parmi les ingénieurs. L’église est en grande vénération parmi les marins.

‘Il résulte de cette vénération dans laquelle est demeurée l’église, et de ce discrédit où est tombé le fort, que celui-ci n’a plus aujourd’hui que des madones pour ouvrages avancés, et des pénitents pour garnison. Il est vrai que, si l’on s’en rapporte à la quantité d’*ex-voto* suspendus dans sa chapelle, il y a peu de vierges aussi miraculeuses que Notre-Dame de la Garde : aussi est-ce à elle que tous les mariniers provençaux ont recours dans l’orage ; et, le beau temps arrivé, selon que la tempête a été plus ou moins terrible, ou que le votant a eu plus ou moins peur, le pèlerin lui apporte, pieds nus, en marchant sur ses genoux, l’*ex-voto* qu’il lui a promis. Une fois le vœu fait, il est au reste religieusement accompli ; il n’y a peut-être pas d’exemple qu’un marin, si pauvre qu’il soit, ait manqué à sa promesse. La seule chose qu’il se permette peut-être, c’est, quand il n’a pas désigné positivement la matière, de donner de l’étain pour de l’argent et du cuivre pour de l’or.’—*Alexandre Dumas*.

The handsome promenade of *Le Prado* may be visited after the descent. Here, in the Château Borély, is the *Musée des Antiques*, containing a vast number of Roman and other antiquities, including the iv. c. high-altar of S. Victor, which had a much greater interest whilst left in the church.

The *Promenade de la Corniche*, following the shore for a distance of 7 k., abounds in beautiful views.

An excursion may be made by boat to the *Château d’If*, the state-prison built by François I. The chamber is shown where Mirabeau was imprisoned by order of his father. At 3 k. are the dreary isles of *Pomèrgue* and

*Ratonneau.* The *Île de Planier*, with its lighthouse, is seen in the far distance.

Omnibuses (50 c.) leave the Cours Belsunce for the suburb of *Les Aygalades*. The road passes the xviii. c. *Château de S. Joseph*, once inhabited by Charles IV. of Spain, now a Pensionnat of the Sacré-Coeur. The *Château des Aygalades*, built by the Maréchal de Villars, was for some years the residence of Barras. Near the village is a hermitage once inhabited by monks of Mount Carmel, who came from Palestine in the xiii. c. At the entrance of the village is a (restored) bastide which belonged to King René.

Artists will go to paint the beautiful view of Marseilles and its islands near the station of S. Antoine, 10 k. on the way to Aix.

## CHAPTER IX.

### LYON TO NÎMES AND THE SOUTH BY THE LINES ON THE WEST BANK OF THE RHÔNE. IN ARDECHE AND GARD.

AFTER leaving Lyon and emerging from the tunnel of Givors the line runs between the river and the hills, passing through *S. Romain-en-Gal*, with a church founded by S. Barnard, archbishop of Vienne in ix. c., a house of the knights of S. John of Jerusalem, and the substructions of the Roman palace where the Emperor Valentinian II. was strangled in 392.

575 k. (from Paris) *S. Colombe*, which takes its name from a Benedictine abbey founded c. viii. c. The town communicates by a suspension bridge with Vienne (ch. viii.). Philippe de Valois surrounded it with walls and built the square tower which still remains. The Convent of Cordeliers, upon which the existing church depended, was inhabited by Philippe le Bel and his court during the council of Vienne in 1312, which abolished the order of the Templars.

23 k. W. is *Pélussin*, with two romanesque churches and a xv. c. house. Hence the road leads by the base of Mont Pilat to (93 k.) Yssingaux (see p. 264).

551 k. *Ampuis*, where numerous Roman fragments have been found.

556 k. *Condrieu*, with a ruined castle and restored church of XIII. c. Opposite the latter is a xv. c. *Maison de la Gabelle*.

562 k. *Chavanay*, with an old castle. There is a diligence hence to (6 k.) *Pélussin*, whence the *Mont Pilat* (1,434 mètr.), the highest point of the Cevennes at their northern extremity may be ascended. It is about  $2\frac{1}{2}$  hrs. to the summit of the *Pic des Trois Dents*, on the S. side of which is the *Pilgrimage Chapel of S. Sabin*. As Northumbrian peasants look to Cheviot, so those of the Loire and Rhône look to Pilat, to see if he wears his cap of rain and mist. From the highest point, whence the Furens flows to the Loire, and the Gier to the Rhône, is one of the grandest views—from Mont Blanc to Cantal—which is to be found in France.

[A road of 29 k. leads from Chavanay by Pélussin to *Bourg-Argental*, where the (restored) church retains a magnificent and richly sculptured portal of xi. c.]

573 k. *Serrières*.

A mountain road leads hence by (6 k.) *Peaugres*, with an abbey of Célestins, founded 1538, to (14 k.) Annonay.

575 k. *Peyraud*.

A station common to the branch line from S. Rambert to *Annonay*, one of the most prosperous manufacturing towns of the Ardèche. The principal church, of *Notre Dame*, is of xviii. c. A pyramid, in the Place des Cordeliers, marks the spot where the brothers Montgolfier, sons of a paper manufacturer of Annonay, sent up the first balloon, June 5, 1783.



The line passes to l. the romanesque church of *Cham-pagne*, which belonged to a Benedictine abbey, and is partly constructed from remains of a temple of Bacchus, as is evident from numerous sculptures encrusted in the walls.

590 k. (between Sarras and Vion), the line crosses the torrent *d' Yzerand*. A path on the r. leads to the ancient *Château d' Yzerand*, ruined by the Huguenots.

603 k. *Tournon* (Hotel: *Monnet*), communicating with Tain by a suspension bridge. The *Château* (with fortified mills upon the Rhône) is now occupied by an hôtel de ville and prison: it belonged in turn to the families of Tournon (extinct 1644), Montmorency, Ventadour, and Rohan Soubise, which possessed the lordship of the town till the Revolution. The collegiate church of *S. Julien* is XIII. c. and XIV. c. The *Lycée*, founded by Cardinal de Tournon, a native of the town, in 1542, is one of the most celebrated colleges in France: the portal bears the arms of the founder. The buildings are mostly renaissance; the chapel is of 1721. One of the two suspension bridges is the earliest of the kind constructed in France.

[A road leads across the Ardèche from Tournon to Le Puy by (28 k.) *Lamastre*; (36 k.) *Désaignes*, which has two old gateways and a Protestant temple, built (1822) on the ruins of a Roman temple, of which the part of the walls remains; and (44 k.) *S. Agrève*, founded on the side of *Mont-Chiniac* upon the spot where S. Agrève, bishop of Puy, was martyred in VII. c.]

607 k. *Mauves*, near which Bituit, king of the Arvernes, crossed the Rhône on a bridge of piles, to meet the Roman army under Fabius, by whom he was totally defeated, with a loss of 120,000 men. The line passes under the castle

of *Châteaubourg*, then leaves the river far to the l. before reaching—

617 k. S. *Péray*, at the meeting of the Mialan and Merdary ; opposite Valence, which is seen across the river and plain—thoroughly Italian in character. On the r., on a tremendous precipice, rise the grand remains of the *Castle of Crussol*, of vast size, and now utterly deserted



CRUSSOL, FROM S. PÉRAY.

and ruined. As the chief place of a barony, it belonged to the family of Crussol (originally Bastet) which (though their chief, Antoine, was created Duc d'Uzès by Catherine de Médicis) were strong upholders in the south of the Protestant cause, for which Galiot de Crussol perished in the massacre of S. Bartholomew. Its donjon tower, with two broken gables, is known as *les Cornes de Crussol*, and is a great feature in the view from Valence.

623 k. *Soyons*, overlooked by the ruin called *La Tour Maudite*. Several caves near this, containing fossil bones, were opened in 1872. Soft delicate mountain distances are seen beyond the river.

627 k. *Charmes*, has a ruined castle, with low, crumbling towers.

632 k. *Beauchastel*. 3 k. S.W. is *S. Laurent-du-Pape*, so called because Pascal II. slept there in 1107. Beyond this, on a rock, with a wide view, is the striking ruined castle of *Pierre-Gourde*. After crossing the Eyrieu, the line crosses a plain known as the *Camp d'Annibal*, from a tradition that a Carthaginian army was stopped there before crossing the Rhône.

636 k. *Lavoulte* (Hotel: *Marcellin*), a rugged mass of brown and red buildings and grey rocks, standing out against the most delicate of mountain distances. The castle belonged first to the family of Levis, then to that of Rohan: the chapel is rich in renaissance ornament. 3 k. S.W. are the baths of *Celles-les-Bains*.

[A road leads W. across the Ardèche to Retournac by (31 k.) *Jonac*, 4 k. E. of which is *Chalençon*, a mediaeval town, with an old gateway, on Roman constructions.]

[A line, beginning at Livron (see p. 339), on the E. bank of the Rhône, leads hence to (27 k.) *Privas* (Hotel: *du Louvre*), the capital of Ardèche, situated at the meeting of the Ouvèze, Chazalon, and Mézayon. Once the capital of the Boutières, Privas was a fief of the houses of Valentinois and S. Vallier. In the xvi. c. it was one of the strongest places in the Vivarais, and was one of the great strongholds of the Protestants. The Protestant chief Montbrun courageously defended Privas in May 1629 against the army of Louis XIII. and Richelieu, but the town was eventually taken and burnt, and the garrison massacred. The king

forbade any one henceforth to inhabit the accursed site, but an act of treachery shown by the inhabitants to their own lord induced him to retract the prohibition. The town contains several old houses, but has no buildings of real interest.]

642 k. *Le Pouzin*, on the site of a Roman town, of which many traces have been found. The place suffered much in the Protestant wars. It has now a great iron foundry.

653 k. *Cruas*, a picturesque place, overlooked by the ruins of an *Abbey*, founded in ix. c., and appearing like a miniature walled town hanging on the mountain slope. Near the entrance of the fine romanesque church is the xi. c. tomb of Adhémar de Poitiers-Valentinois. In the apse is a mosaic of xi. c., representing Enoch and Elijah. Part of the abbey-cloister of xiii. c. remains, and a romanesque crypt. In the principal street is a milliard column. Here a few olives appear ; box clothes the higher hills.

An excursion may be made from Cruas to the picturesque *Château de Pampelonne*, on the summit of a volcanic rock.

662 k. *Rochemaure*, under striking basaltic rocks, columnar and black, stained with golden lichen, which bear the ruins of a castle of the house of Adhémar, demolished by Louis XIII.

2 k. W. is the partly-ruined chapel of *S. Laurent*, which bears over the door a curious Latin inscription of x. c., which may be read in different ways. Near this is the curious volcanic mountain of *Chenavari*, of which the colossal basaltic summit is known as *Le Pavé des Géants*.

666 k. *Le Teil* (opposite Montélimar : Buffet), famous for its limestone quarries.

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A second line to Nîmes diverges at Le Teil so as to serve the S.E. of Ardèche and the centre of Gard, passing (on l.) the curious romanesque church of *Mélas*, before reaching—

675 k. *Aubignas*. 1½ k. l. is *Aps*, on the site of Alba Augusta, the capital of the Helvii. It was once the site of a bishopric, transferred to Viviers. Little now remains but its ruined xv. c. castle.

682 k. *S. Jean-le-Centénier*, in the neighbourhood of which are the curious basaltic *Rampes de Montbrul*, five terraces of lava on the side of the volcanic mountain called *Les Balmes de Montbrul*.

688 k. *Villeneuve-le-Berg*. The town, 4 k. S.W. (Hotel : *d'Olivier de Serres*) has a street, a statue, and the house where he was born to commemorate Olivier de Serres, who introduced the cultivation of the mulberry into France in the time of Henri IV.

694 k. *Vogué-Vals*, with a suspension bridge over the Ardèche, and a ruined castle with four dwarfed towers.

[A branch line from Vogué leads N. to—

10 k. *Aubenas*. The town, on a hill above the railway, owes its foundation to the destruction of Alba Augusta by the Vandals. It was the first city of the Vivarais to declare for the Reform, and is now a flourishing manufacturing town. The *Château Neuf*, begun xiii. c. by the Montlaur and finished xvi. c. by the Ornano, then bought by the Comte de Vogüé, who possessed it till the Revolution, contains the public offices. The church has a xv. c. tower. In the sacristy is the tomb of the Maréchal d'Ornano, imprisoned at Vincennes by Richelieu, and put to death in his cell: the white marble statues of the marshal and his wife were mutilated at the Revolution. The *Petit Séminaire*, of xvii. c., has a remarkable chapel. On the promenade of Plan de l'Airette is a statue of Olivier de Serres

by Bailly On the neighbouring *Rocher de Justre* are remains of a Gaulish oppidum and Roman camp.

15 k. *Vals-les-Bains-la-Bégude*.  $1\frac{1}{2}$  k. is *Vals-les-Bains* (Hotels: *Grand des Bains*; *de l'Europe*; *du Louvre*; *de Paris*, etc.), a mineral place of great repute, in a charming situation overlooked by a castle, ruined by Duc de Montmorency in 1627. Pleasant drives may be taken to (7 k.; carriage, 8 fr.) *Antraigues-sur-Volans*, a very striking and picturesque place, on a basaltic rock, whither there is a great pilgrimage every 16th August, in honour of S. Roch; to (14 k.; carriage, 25 fr.) *Neyrac-les-Bains*, in an interesting volcanic district; and (16 k.) *Thueyts*, to visit the extraordinary basaltic *Pavé des Géants*.

‘Le village de Thueyts est bâti, comme celui de Jaujac, sur un fleuve de lave solidifiée, dont la falaise terminale, érodée par les eaux, forme aussi une majestueuse colonnade basaltique de 50 mètres de hauteur et d’environ 2,500 mètres de longueur, faisant face aux escarpements de granit de la rive opposée. Attenant au volcan de Thueyts est celui que les paysans désignent sous le nom de Gravenne de Montpezat, et dont le cône, d’une grande régularité, a versé dans la vallée une nappe qui depuis a été découpée par les eaux en falaises et en promontoires colonnaires d’un aspect superbe; en maints endroits, les coupures faites par l’Ardèche et ses affluents ont entamé, au-dessous du basalte, des lits de cailloux roulés et le granit sous-jacent. Au nord-est, près du village de Burzet, le torrent du même nom ne s’est point ouvert une avenue de colonnes dans les coulées de basalte, mais il a nivelé la surface de la roche, de manière à en former un “Pavé des Géants;” non moins beau que celui de l’Irlande.’—*Élisée Reclus*.

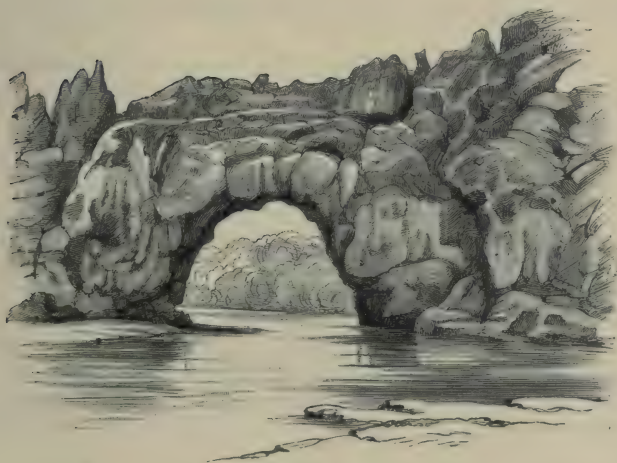
19 k. *Prades*, in a curious bason of the volcanic hills.]

700 k. *Balazuc*, of which the lords long ruled the Bas Vivarais. The castle is on a limestone rock; there is another castle, of xvi. c., on a lower hill.

707 k. *Ruoms-Vallon*. *Ruoms* retains its ancient fortifications and many mansions of xiii. c. and xiv. c.

There is an omnibus from the station to (9 k.) *Vallon*, where a boat may be taken for the descent of the Ardèche. It is 7 hrs. to S. Martin de l'Ardèche. The rocks are often very picturesque and curious. At 1 hr. is the famous *Pont de l'Arc*, a natural tunnel, where the river passes through the *Roche de Moine* under a natural arch of great width and loftiness.

'L'Ardèche, qui s'élève dans ses grandes crues de 21 et 22



PONT DE L'ARC.

mètres au-dessus de l'étiage, a fait merveille. A côté d'un ancien lit circulaire, qu'elle emplit encore partiellement pendant ses inondations, elle a foré une muraille de roches par un portail gigantesque de 54 mètres d'ouverture. Ce pont, qui surmontait jadis une tour de défense, est la curiosité la plus remarquable de cette vallée de l'Ardèche, peu visitée d'ailleurs, quoique si étrange et si pittoresque, du côté des sources par ses colonnades basaltiques, dans sa partie inférieure par les avenues solennelles de ses cluses, où l'eau verte serpente à la base des rochers.'—*Élisée Reclus*.

14 k. N. of Vallon, reached by the precipitous *Défilé de Ruoms*, is *Largentière*, pleasantly situated in the gorge of the Ligne. The transition church has a xv. c. stone pulpit. The ruined castle of *Fanjau* is supposed to occupy the site of a temple of Jupiter (fanum Jovis). Opposite, is the well-preserved château, flanked by machicolated towers, of the barons de Largentière, now an hospital. A little E. of the town is *Chassiers*, with two good churches and two ruined châteaux. A road which turns off from that to Largentière to the l. leads to *Joyeuse*, an ancient walled town, where the château now serves as hôtel de ville.

721 k. *Beaulieu-Berrias*. To the r. is the *Château de Jalès*, an ancient residence of the Templiers, then of the Knights of Malta.

730 k. *S. Paul-le-Jeune*.

There is an omnibus from S. Paul to (11 k.) *Les Vans*, a walled town with an ancient gateway and many curious houses. At 6 k. on the road hither, is passed the solitary house called *Le Mas de Rivière*, whence a guide may be taken to visit the most remarkable points in *Le Bois de Païolive*, a paradise of painters—an immemorial forest, with a labyrinth of picturesque rocks of the most fantastic and extraordinary forms. Few places, utterly unknown to English travellers, are more curious. A guide is indispensable.

The department of Gard is entered before reaching—  
738 k. *Robiac*, opposite its ruined château.

[A branch line leads to (3 k.) *Bessèges* (Hotel: *du Commerce*), a considerable place, the centre of the coal district of La Cèze.]

747 k. *S. Ambroix*, at the foot of a rock bearing a ruined castle.

752 k. *S. Julien-de-Cassagnas*, whence there is an omnibus in summer to *Les Fumades*, a bathing-place, one hour's walk distant.



[A line diverges S. E. from S. Julien to join the line from Avignon to Nîmes at (58 k.) Remoulins, passing—

20 k. *Euzet*, with mineral baths 2 k. from station.

38 k. *Uzès* (Hotel: *Ferdinand Béchard*—good). The town is 1½ k. from the station; omnibus, 20 c.

Uzès is surrounded by modern boulevards, but consists of a labyrinth of dirty streets circling round the magnificent palace-château of *La Duché*, which is shown in the absence of the



UZES.

duchess, who is the granddaughter of Mme. Veuve Cliquot, and celebrated for her charities. The donjon dates from the XI. c. The façade towards the pleasant courtyard planted with shrubs is of XVI. c., from designs of Philibert Delorme. A beautiful staircase, with a coved ceiling in diamond pattern, leads to the upper apartments, full of old family portraits. The chapel, spoilt by modern painting, is XIII. c., with vaults beneath it full of tombs of dukes and duchesses.

'Les d'Uzès s'intitulent les premiers ducs de France: cette prétention, assez peu fondée en réalité, repose sur une équivoque.

Douze duchés-pairies furent érigés avant celle d'Uzès ; le chef de cette maison était donc le treizième en rang au Parlement. Mais quand Louis XIII. ordonna que les ducs et paires eussent désormais à faire vérifier leurs titres en la chambre des enquêtes, il décida qu'ils siégeraient dans l'ordre où cette formalité aurait été accomplie. Le duc d'Uzès se hâta d'obtempérer le jour même à l'édit royal. Son carrosse se rencontrant dans la rue Saint-Thomas-du-Louvre avec celui du duc de Luynes, il se pencha hors de la portière pour crier à son cocher qu'il lui fallait arriver au Palais devant son rival. Les deux lourdes machines se heurtèrent dans l'étroite rue : il fallait verser ou passer. Très peu civilement, Uzès versa Luynes dans la boue, et le cocher fouettant ses chevaux arriva triomphalement le premier.'—*Paul Vassili, 'La Société de Paris.'*

The street behind the castle leads to the former *Cathedral*, which has a splendid circular romanesque tower of XII. c. of many storeys, known as *Tour Fenestrelle*. The former *Évêché* is the sous-préfecture. Close by is the *Hôtel du Baron de Castille*. There is a view over the stony mountain wilderness which surrounds Uzès from the little promenade near the cathedral. Under the convent of the *Dames de S. Maur* is a curious rock-hewn crypt. The *Pavillon Racine* was inhabited by the poet for some months. In the environs are the ruined *Tour de l'Évêque*, the ruined XII. c. church of *S. Genies*, and a number of curious caverns.

52 k. *Pont du Gard*. The glorious Roman bridge crosses a ravine on the r. (see ch. viii.).]

757 k. *Salindres*, overlooked by a square tower.

766 k. *Alais* (Hotels : *du Luxembourg ; du Commerce*), on the l. bank of the Gardon, at the foot of the Cevennes ; is one of the principal towns of the colliery district. The *Cathedral*, dating partly from XII. c., is chiefly in the style of Louis XV. At the end of the Promenade de la Maréchale is the old *Château*, now a barrack and prison.

[A line leads W. to join that from Nîmes and Montpellier

to Vigan at (31 k.) Quissac (see later), passing (17 k.) *Lézan*, whence there is a branch of 6 k. to *Anduze* (Andusia), an old town with a château built by Vauban. The *Tour de l'Horloge* is ancient. Hence a road leads to (106 k.) Mende, passing (13 k.) *S. Jean du Gard*, an old town with a picturesque bridge over the Gardon, and then crossing especially wild upland plateaux of the Cevennes.]

781 k. *Ners*. Here the line joins that from Clermont-Ferrand to Nîmes. See ch. iv.

787 k. *Nozières*, whence there is a branch line of 19 k. to Uzès. See p. 443.

796 k. *Fons-outre-Gardon*.

8 k. S.E. is the old fortified town of *Dions*, on the Gardon, and, near it, the curious natural excavation with perpendicular sides called *les Espélugues* (spelunae), recalling the latomiae of Syracuse.

816 k. *Nîmes*.

Continuing the line on the W. bank of the Rhône from Le Teil, we reach—

675 k. (from Paris) *Viviers* (Hotel: *du Louvre*), which gives a name to the district of Vivarais. The older part of the town, with narrow rugged streets and many ancient mansions and sculptured windows, surrounds a rock, crowned by the *Cathedral*, a very picturesque building, with a XIII. c. nave, romanesque tower, and XIV. c. choir. The W. portal and the vaulting of the apse deserve especial notice. The *Évêché* is XVII. c. Amongst the old houses we may notice the *Hôtel de la Recette Générale*,

the sculptured façade of the renaissance *Hôtel d'Albert de Noé*, and the *Maison des Chevaliers*. The best view of Viviers is the distant one, as it is approached from the N.

688 k. *Bourg-S. Andéol*, which communicates by a suspension-bridge with Pierrelatte (see p. 348), and owes its



VIVIERS.

name to a missionary of Christianity martyred, II. c., in the neighbourhood. The church (of XI. c.), has a roman-  
esque tower with a polygonal spire, and contains a sculptured Gallo-Roman sarcophagus. The town, overlooked by a square tower, contains many old houses. Near it, is the *Fontaine de Tournes*, rising at the foot of a rock, which has some remains of rude sculpture in honour of the god Mithras.



Crossing the Ardèche just before it falls into the Rhône, we reach—

703 k. *Pont-S. Esprit* (Hotel: *de l'Europe*), first called Ville-Claire, and then after its missionary, S. Saturnin; received its present name from the bridge and oratory built, 1265—1309, in honour of the Holy Ghost. The *Citadel* was begun by Henri IV. in 1595, and finished by Louis XIII. Its chapel is of 1365. The Church of *S. Esprit* (1319—1450) has a portal of 1474. *S. Saturnin* has a xv. c. portal. Amongst the old houses, the *Maison du Roi*, the *Logis du S. Esprit*, and the *Maison des Chevaliers* of xi. c. deserve notice.

The old, irregular stone bridge over the Rhône was erected by the fraternal goodwill and exertions of the association of the *Frères Pontifes*, a little later than the famous Pont d'Avignon. It has nineteen large and three small arches. 3 k. N. W. is the pilgrimage-chapel of *S. Pancrace*.

[A road leads N.W. from Pont-S. Esprit to Villefort (see ch. iv.) by Les Vans (see p. 442). At 5 k. a road turns S. to (6 k.) *La Chartreuse de Valbonne*, founded XIII. c., rebuilt 1780, and ruined under the Restauration. Since 1836 it has been again inhabited by Carthusians. An ancient gothic cloister remains.

9 k. W. is *S. Martin*, on the l. bank of the Ardèche, 7 k. W. of which (2 hrs. by boat) are the huge *Grottes de S. Marcel*, which it takes at least 6 hrs. to visit.]

715 k. *Bagnols-sur-Cèze*, on the l. bank of the Cèze, at the foot of the Dent de Signac and the Camp de César. At about 9 k. distant, in a highly romantic situation, is the *Cascade du Sautadet*.

725 k. *L'Ardoise*, whence there is a branch line of 57 k. to Alais. See p. 444.

730 k. S. *Geniès-Montfaucon*. 4 k. S.W. is the very curious church of *Notre Dame de Lirac*, entirely cut out of the rock.



TOUR DE PHILIPPE LE BEL, PONT D'AVIGNON.

733 k. *Roquemaure*, an old town with a ruined castle, where Pope Clement V. died in 1314.

744 k. *Villeneuve-Pujaut*, the station for *Villeneuve-les-Avignon* (see chap. viii.), which contains the tomb of Innocent VI. Near the bank of the Rhône is the noble tower of Philippe le Bel (intended to guard the end of the Pont S. Benezet), which combines so well with its green willow foregrounds and blue mountain distances.

745 k. *Pont-d'Avignon*. Omnibuses cross the bridge to Avignon, 10 c. (see chap. viii.).

769 k. *Remoulins*, the junction with the line to the Pont du Gard and Uzès (see p. 443). Beyond the little station of Lafoux, the line passes r. *S. Bonnet*, with a XII. c. church.

783 k. *Marguerittes*. In the cemetery is the ruined XII. c. church of S. Gilles.

790 k. *Nîmes*. (Omnibus, 50 c. Hotels: *du Luxembourg*—best; *du Cheval Blanc*; *de l'Univers*, opposite Les Arènes; *Durand*. Carriages, 60 c. and 80 c. the course; 1 fr. 50 c. and 2 fr. the hour.) The steep draughty staircases of the station are most fatiguing for invalids. There is no beauty in Nîmes, and, after seeing its Roman antiquities, no one will wish to linger there.

The Roman Nemausus, founded by Augustus, was richly adorned with public buildings by Agrippa, and afterwards by Hadrian, and in a short time it became one of the handsomest towns of the empire. S. Baudile preached Christianity at Nîmes, and was martyred there in the III. c. The town was successively ravaged by the Vandals, Visigoths, and the Saracens. After the expulsion of the latter by Charles Martel, it became part of the kingdom of Aquitaine; in 1185 it passed to the Counts of Toulouse; in 1227 to the kings of France. Three parts of its population having become Protestant, it suffered greatly in the Wars of Religion, and the revocation of the Edict of Nantes deprived it of its richest and most industrious citizens. In 1815 it was again stained by a cruel massacre of Protestants as well as of Bonapartists. Nîmes is the capital of the Département du Gard.

Those who pay a rapid visit to Nîmes will, on leaving

the station, follow the Avenue Feuchères to the Place de l'Esplanade, decorated (1848) by a fountain adorned with five beautiful statues (representing rivers) by Pradier. Turning l. on entering the Place, we find *Les Arènes*, built by the emperor Hadrian,<sup>1</sup> a magnificent Roman amphitheatre, which is much more perfect externally than that of Arles; even most of the corbels for the poles sustaining the covering remain. The interior is less perfect, and was only disengaged in 1809 from a number of buildings which encumbered it. Two romanesque windows, pierced in the massive walls on the N., are left as a relic of the chapel of S. Martin-des-Arènes. The Cyclopean stones are said to indicate the work of a Gaulish architect. Where time has destroyed the seats, they have been restored, and the central space is now used as a bull-ring.

‘C'est un grand amphithéâtre, un peu en ovale, tout bâti de prodigieuses pierres, longues de deux toises, qui se tiennent là, depuis plus de seize cents ans, sans mortier et par leur seule pesanteur. Il est tout ouvert en dehors par de grandes arcades, et en dedans ce ne sont tout autour que de grands sièges de pierre, où tout le peuple s'asseyoit pour voir les combats des bêtes et des gladiateurs.’—*Racine*, ‘*À l'Abbé de Vasseur*,’ 1661.

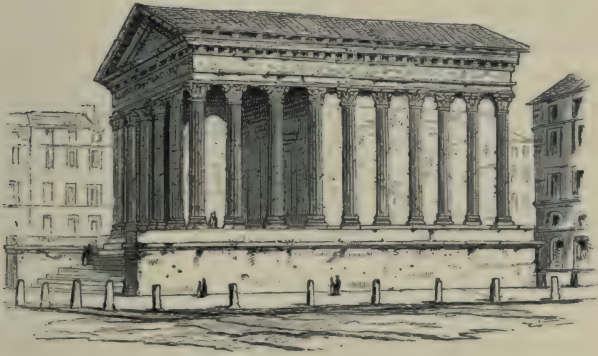
From the entrance of Les Arènes, the Boulevard Victor Hugo leads to the Place de la Comédie, containing the *Maison Carrée*, the most beautiful and perfect Roman temple in the world, which Cardinal Alberoni said only needed a box of gold to defend it from the injuries of the weather. It is a noble rectangular building of unknown intention, surrounded by thirty fluted corinthian columns.

<sup>1</sup> Aelius Spartianus says that Hadrian also erected a splendid basilica at Nîmes in honour of his adopted mother Plautina, wife of his predecessor Trajan.



The portico, though the roof is a restoration, is magnificent : the engaged columns at the sides of the building have a less satisfactory effect.

The interior is a *Musée* of altars, urns, mosaic pavements, and inscriptions ; the most important object it contains being the small and beautiful but much restored statue called the Venus of Nîmes.



MAISON CARRÉE, NÎMES.

If we follow (l.) the Quai de la Fontaine from the end of the boulevard, we reach (r.) the *Promenade de la Fontaine*, a pleasant little public garden, where a magnificent spring has its source and rushes through deep beds of masonry, crossed by many balustraded bridges. At the back of the garden is the ruin called the *Temple of Diana*, which was probably a nymphæum belonging to the neighbouring baths.

The handsome staircase at the back of the fountain and

the wooded walk called *Allée de Mont-Cavalier*, will lead us up the hill to *La Tour Magne*, probably a tomb, circular at the base, and angular with pilasters above: it may be ascended, and there is a fine view from the summit.

Descending the hill on the other side, we may see, at the foot of a bastion, in the Rue de Lampèze, behind the fortress, the remains of the *Castellum divisorium*, where the waters of the Eure and Airan, brought to Nîmes by the Pont du Gard, were distributed to the different quarters of the town.

Crossing the Place de la Bouqueterie, we may follow the Boulevard Gambetta, which has the post-office and church of S. Charles on the l. It ends at the large modern gothic Church of *S. Baudile*, opposite which, at the entrance of the Boulevard Amiral Courbet, is the *Porte d'Auguste*, a Roman arch, with cornice and frieze, flanked by little towers, which served as signal-posts, and as staircases to the gallery on the summit.

In the centre of a labyrinth of dirty streets, skirted by the two boulevards already mentioned, is the *Cathedral of S. Castor*, built on the ruins of a temple of Augustus, but renewed internally in xvii. c. after a destruction by the Protestants, and so often restored externally as to be of no interest, except the façade, with its rich cornice and frieze of the xi. c. telling the history of the world from the Creation to the death of Abel, and the tower, of which a portion of the base may have belonged to the temple.

A little W. of Nîmes are *Les Trois Piliers*, remains of a chapel of the Virgin, used as a gallows in xvi. c. Excursions may be made to the Pont du Gard and S. Gilles, Vigan, and Aigues Mortes.

[The line from Nîmes to Vigan follows the line to Montpellier (passing the ruined château of Aubais) as far as (31 k.) *Sommières*, and then turns up the dreary mountain valley of the Cevennes to the N.W., passing—

51 k. *Quissac*. 4 k. N. is the *Château de Florian*, the birthplace of the famous fabulist.

[For the line from Quissac to Alais and Anduze see p. 444.]

57 k. *Sauve*, with a ruined castle and curious mediæval bridge over the Vidourle. The line proceeds through arid rocks, in whose caverns many relics of the prehistoric age of man have been discovered, to—

65 k. *S. Hippolyte-du-Fort*, with the rock-built ruins called *le Castelas*. There is a road hence to Alais by *La Salle*, a manufacturing town on the Salindrinque.

79 k. *Ganges*, a Protestant town at the meeting of the peaceful Hérault and the furious torrent Sumène. 6 k., at the picturesque village of *S. Laurent-le-Minier*, is the stalactite *Grotte d'Anjeau*.

94 k. *Le Vigan* (Hotel: *du Cheval-Vert*), the ancient Avicantium, which has an old gothic *Bridge* over the Arre, a *Halle au Blé*, occupying the site of a Roman temple, and, in the principal square, a statue of the Chevalier d'Assas, born in the environs, who died bravely in battle with the English at Clostercamp, Oct. 16, 1760.]

[A line of 40 k. leads S. from Nîmes to the curious and interesting mediæval town of Aigues Mortes (see *South-Western France*, ch. vii.). The line passes (16 k.) *Beauvoisin*, where there are remains of a XIII. c. castle, and 2 k. r. of which is the *Château de Candiac*, of 1630, the birthplace of the Marquis de Montcalm, killed before Quebec, Sept. 14, 1712.]

## CHAPTER X.

LYON TO MARSEILLES BY 'GRENOBLE (GAP, LA SALETTE, EMBRUN, BRIANÇON), SISTERON (DIGNE), AND AIX (S. MAXIMIN, AND LA-SAINTE-BAUME). IN DAUPHINÉ AND PROVENCE; OR HAUTES-ALPES, BASSES-ALPES, AND ALPES-MARITIMES.

Besides the sites which are only interesting to mountaineers, the places described in this chapter which are most worth seeing are Grenoble, Embrun (cathedral), Sisteron (gorge and cathedral), S. Maximin (church), and La-Sainte-Baume. The only good inns (except at the bathing-places) are those of Grenoble, Gap, Digne (?), and Aix.

THERE are two routes from Lyon to Grenoble. The first (of 121 k.) passes—

27 k. *S. Quentin*, a prettily situated manufacturing town.

42 k. *Bourgoin* (Bergusium), with small remains of a castle of the early Dauphins. Rousseau lived in 1769 in the castellated farm of *Montquin*. 2 k. S. is the castle of *Maubec*, ruined in XVI. c.

57 k. *La Tour du Pin*, on the Bourbre.

Diligence to (15 k.) *Aoste* (Augusta), where there are some obscure Roman remains.

64 k. *S. André-le-Gua*.

Diligence to (12 k.) *Pont de Beauvoisin*, which has a fine bridge of single arch over the Guiers, built by François I.

72 k. *Virieu* (sur Bourbre), which has a fine feudal château,



built by the Clermont-Tonnerre in xiv. c., now the property of M. de Virieu. It has a stately chapel, 'la chambre du roi' (where Louis XIII. slept), and magnificent tapestry.

6 k. S.E., in the midst of woods, are the ruins of *La Chartreuse de Silve-Bénite*, built originally in 1160 by the abbot Thierry, natural son of Frederick Barbarossa. Of the early building there are small remains. A later chartreuse, of xvii. c., was never finished. The hill of Silve-Bénite looks down upon the blue waters of the *Lac de Paladru*, famous for its traces of villages on piles.

85 k. *Rives*, a manufacturing town. In the Bas-Rives is *La Tour de Louis XI.*

96 k. *Voiron* (Hotels : *du Louvre ; du Cours ; de la Poste*), the Roman Voronum, a prosperous manufacturing town, with a large modern church of S. Bruno (1864).

Diligences run from Voiron to (18 k.) S. Laurent-du-Pont for the Grande Chartreuse (see ch. vii.). The road passes through the defile of *Grand-Crossey*.

[15½ k. from Voiron is the old town of *S. Geoire*, overhung by a rock with a ruined castle. Its church was founded xvi. c. by the family of Clermont-Tonnerre.]

102 k. *Moirans* (Morginum). Here the line to Valence branches off. See later.

108 k. *Voreppe* (Hotel : *du Petit Paris*).

A pleasant excursion may be made from Voreppe (two hours' walk on mule-path) to the *Convent of Chalais*, founded at the N. base of Grande Aiguille in 1108 by Guignes, Comte d'Albon, on the petition of S. Hugues of Grenoble. Rebuilt in 1640, the convent now belongs to the Dominicans of Lyon. An ascent of an hour by a Via Crucis leads hence to the summit of the *Grande-Aiguille* (1,095 mè.).

115 k. *S. Égrève*. It is a walk of 8 hrs. from hence to

the Grande Chartreuse over the Col de la Charmette and Col de la Crochette (guide desirable).

121 k. Grenoble.

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If we follow the other line (157 k.) from Lyon to Grenoble.

See ch. viii. for the line from Lyon to—

60 k. *S. Rambert*, whence the line to Grenoble diverges E. by the valley of *La Valloire*.

70 k. *Épinouze*. 5 k. distant is *Moras*, a curious old walled town. After passing Beaurepaire, the line skirts the l. bank of the Auron.

81 k. *Marcilloles*.

7 k. distant is *Marnans*, with a curious romanesque church of XI. c., possessing a very lofty nave; it belonged to an Augustinian priory.

97 k. *La-Côte-S. André*. The town (5 k. N.) retains part of one tower of a castle of the counts of Savoie, where Louis XI. was married to Charlotte de Savoie; the later château is of 1600. The church is partly romanesque, partly XIII. c. and XIV. c., the chapel XV. c.

*Pénol* (5 k. W.), has a portal and choir of XI. c.

104 k. *S. Étienne-de-S. Geoirs*. The village, 1 k. r., has remains of walls, a XV. c. château and XIV. c. chapel. An excursion may be made to *Plan*, which has a church with a XII. c. portal and a curious old farm of the bishops of Grenoble, retaining its XVII. c. furniture.

110 k. *Izeaux* (Hotel: *Grollier*) stands at the entrance of a gorge, up which an hour's walk leads to the still inhabited Benedictine priory of *Notre Dame de Parménie*. This is

said to have been founded and fortified by the bishops of Grenoble when flying from an invasion of the Saracens in ix. c. It was burnt in xv. c., and remained in ruins till the end of xvii. c., when it was restored by the offerings collected by a shepherdess of the place. In the present century the priory became the head-quarters of a party who protested against the concordat between Pius VII. and Napoléon I.

116 k. *Rives*. See p. 455.

152 k. *Grenoble* (Hotels : *Monnet*, Place Grenette—first-rate ; *de l'Europe*, Place Grenette ; *des Trois Dauphins*, Rue Montorge ; *des Ambassadeurs*, Rue Montorge. Carriages by tariff for all drives and excursions). Grenoble is the strongly-fortified capital of the Département de l'Isère, and formerly of the province of Dauphiné, and is one of the most attractive and beautifully-situated towns in France. It originated in Cularo, a village of the Allobroges, which the Emperor Gratian fortified and called Gratianopolis. Its first bishop was S. Domnin, c. 380. The views of the mountains from the quays along the Isère are full of variety and beauty.

The Grande Rue leads from the Place Grenette to the Place S. André, decorated with a *Statue of Bayard* (by Raggi, 1823), and containing the *Palais de Justice*, begun by Louis XII. on the site of the old palace of the Dauphins. The portal and the windows above, and the apse of what was formerly the chapel, are of this time ; the renaissance façade is of 1561—1603. The part of the palace devoted to the *cour d'appel*, contains handsome rooms of the time of Louis XIV. ; that appropriated to the *tribunal civil* contains the ancient *Salle des Comtes*, with wood carvings of time of Charles VIII.

The *Church of S. André*, founded c. 1220 by the Dauphin Guignes-André, was long the private chapel of the Dauphins. It has a square brick tower with a steeple. In the l. aisle is the renaissance tomb of Bayard, the 'Chevalier sans peur et sans reproche,' who was originally buried in the ruined church of the Minimes de la Plaine, 2 k. from the town, but brought here in 1822. The interesting tombs of the



QUAYS OF GRENOBLE.

Dauphins were destroyed, and their bodies exhumed by the Protestants under the Baron des Adrets, by whom great atrocities were perpetrated at Grenoble during the Wars of Religion.

The *Hôtel de Ville* (Rue du Quai) shows some admirable remains of the palace of the Dauphins. Turning r. we reach the Place Notre Dame, with the *Cathedral of Notre Dame*, completely modernised, though the older parts—the tower



and pillars of the nave—date from XI. c. or XII. c. The building is of brick, except the portal and lower part of the tower, which some archaeologists believe to belong to the church founded by Bishop Isarn in x. c. On l. of the choir is the tomb of Bishop Aimon de Chissay of xv. c., on the r. is a beautiful ciborium of 1455-57, supposed to be the



PALACE OF THE DAUPHINS, GRENOBLE.

work of Nicolas Girard, 'l'imagier de Grenoble,' who constructed the monuments of the Dauphins for Humbert II. in 1353.

'Les huit niches, placées sur deux rangs, sont aujourd'hui vides de leurs statuettes, détruites pendant les guerres de religion. Les dais qui en font le couronnement servent en même temps de base pour soutenir d'autres statuettes superposées, qui ont également disparu. Les feuillages, les rinceaux, les fleurons, ces mille créations ravissantes de l'art gothique, se dessinent au-dessus de

ce second rang et font une véritable corbeille de feuilles et de fleurs. Le sommet est triangulaire et détaché de la muraille ; il offre encore trois niches et se termine de la manière la plus heureuse et la plus pittoresque.'—*Bourasse*, '*Cathédrales de France*.'

The Chapelle of S. Hugues, adjoining the r. aisle, and dating from XII. c. or XIII. c., was once the principal church.

Crossing the Isère to its l. bank, we find, in the Rue S. Laurent, the *Church of S. Laurent*, on the site of the church which was the cathedral of Grenoble till the time of Charlemagne : in 1012 it became a priory belonging to the abbey S. Chaffre (Haute-Loire). The existing choir is of XI. c. The apse is decorated externally with curious sculptures above the windows. The interior is completely modernised, but beneath is a crypt, supposed to date from VI. c. ; it is in the form of a Latin cross, with a vault supported by fifteen pillars of white, and thirteen of red marble.

In the handsome Place de la Constitution are the buildings of the *Musée-Bibliothèque*, open daily from 8 to 5, except Mondays, Fridays, festas, the months of September and October and the quinzaine de Pâques. The library contains some valuable illuminated MSS. The picture gallery is a very good one for a provincial collection, and remarkably well hung. We may notice—

67. *Perugino*. S. Sebastian and S. Apollonia.

77. *Ribera*. Martyrdom of S. Bartholomew—a powerful and terrible picture.

87. *Philippe de Champaigne*. Louis XIV. decorating his brother, the Duc d'Orléans, with the order of S. Esprit.

116. *Van der Meulen*. Louis XIV. and his Court passing the Pont Neuf—a very curious picture.  
 124. *Rubens*. S. Gregory the Great under an archway surrounded by saints—a very grand work from S. Michel at Antwerp.  
 132. *Terburg*. Female portrait.

In a lofty situation, near the road to Chambéry, is the old Château of *Bongéron*, now a hydropathic establishment.

7 k. from Grenoble, on the road to Sisteron, is the *Pont de*



PONT DE CLAIX.

*Claix*, a wonderful and picturesque bridge of a single arch over the Drac, built by Lesdiguières 1608-11. To save carriages the steep incline to the old bridge, a modern one has been built near it.

[Amongst the other drives from Grenoble are (6 k.; carriage, 4 fr. 50 c.) *Sassenage* (Hotel: *des Cuves*), known from *La fée de Sassenage* of the popular songs.

The church has an xi. c. tower. In a chapel on r. of the portal a black marble stone marks the grave of the brave Lesdiguières, whose remains were brought hither in 1822 from

the chapel of his castle of Diguières, near Corps, ruined in the Revolution. The handsome château of the Marquis de Béranger dates from Louis XIII.; the original château, of XI. c., was in a higher situation. Behind the village opens the picturesque ravine, called the *Gorge du Furon*, with a waterfall. Some labyrinthine caverns are shown by a guide with torches. In that called *Le Four des Fées* are the famous *cuves*, natural excavations in the form of a reversed cone, which, according to popular tradition, indicate the fertility of the approaching season in proportion to the water they contain in spring. 'Noblesse de Sassenage' used to be as proverbial in the district as 'Loyauté de Salvaing' and 'Prouesse de Terrail' (*i.e.* Bayard). Beyond Sassenage is the narrow defile called *Les Portes d'Engins*, where the Furon rushes between perpendicular precipices of rock. Beyond this the valley widens. Continuing to ascend the l. bank of the stream, we reach an iron cross, below which the Furon falls into a chasm between two rocks. The church of *Engins* has a tower of XI. c. or XII. c. Some distance further (19 k. from Grenoble) is the entrance of the wild and picturesque *Gorges d'Engins*, 2 k. in length. 1 k. from the road is the hamlet of *Lans*, with a church partly XI. c. and XII. c. Hence pedestrians may make an excursion (1½ hrs. ascent) to *la Chaise de Ranz du Buis*.

'La chaise est une entaille faite par la nature dans la corniche du Ranz du Buis. Par cette ouverture, percée à 1,700 mètr. au-dessus de la plaine, l'œil plonge sur la vallée, qui s'ouvre semblable à un abîme. De cette hauteur, Grenoble apparaît comme une carrière de moellons taillés; l'Isère et le Drac, comme deux filets d'eau; le cours Saint André est une allée de parc; les collines se confondent avec la plaine. Tous les détails s'amalgament pour former le plus rare et le plus bel ensemble. De chaque côté du Graisivaudan se dressent une légion formidable de pics, de dents, de crêtes, de dômes, d'aiguilles.'—*Léo Ferry, 'Journal de Dauphiné.'*

This route may be continued to—

27½ k. *Le Villard de Lans*, in a delightful neighbourhood, whence the road, often cut in the rock, leads through the valley of the Bourne, to—



51 k. *Pont-en-Royans* (Hotel: *Dubouchet*), an exceedingly picturesque place. See later.]

[Another favourite (whole day) excursion from Grenoble is to drive to *Beauregard*, a château of the last century, and walk to the ruined *Tour de S. Venin*, really S. Véran, though local tradition says that it was named because the Paladin Roland surrounded it with an earth from Paris which had the power of



BATHS OF URIAGE.

killing every venomous creature that approached it. There is a fine view of the Alps from hence. One may descend to the W. into the picturesque ravine called *Le Désert*, whence a wooded path leads back to Beauregard.]

[The Grande Chartreuse (see ch. vii.) may be visited from Grenoble by taking the railway to Voreppe or to Voiron, whence there are diligences to S. Laurent du Pont, and, in summer, often public carriages to the Chartreuse.]

[A road (omnibus in summer) leads S. to (16 k.) *Vif* in the

valley of the Gresse, where the church, chiefly XII. c. and XIV. c., has some remains of the VIII. c.; (23 k.) *Notre Dame de Commiers*, with a church and other remains of a priory of 1545; (33 k.) *La-Motte-les-Bains* (Hotel: *du Bois; Dechaux*), in the valley of the Vaux, which has a pretty cascade.]

[The line from Grenoble to Chambéry, through the beautiful *Vallée de Graisivaudan*, one of the most fertile in France, passes—



PONT DE CROLLES, VALLÉE DE GRAISIVAUDAN.

6 k. *Gières*. Diligences to (6 k.; 1 fr.) the baths of *Uriage* (Hotels: *Grand; du Cercle; Ancien*), a very pretty place in a green hollow with striking mountain views. The basin was formerly occupied by a lake, but its sulphuric hot baths, useful in skin diseases, were known to the Romans. The château, fortress of the Seigneurs d'Allemand, dates from XIII. c. to XVI. c. Its present owner, M. de S. Ferriol, has collected a museum of local antiquities there, and some tolerable pictures. Amongst the many excursions from Uriage, are *La Chartreuse de Prémol* (2 hrs.): the fine *Cascade de l'Oursière* (8 hrs. to go and return), and the ascent of the *Chanrousse* (5 hrs. ascent,  $3\frac{1}{2}$  descent).

11 k. *Domène*. The station used by mountain excursionists from Grenoble for the ascent of *La Croix de Belledonnè*, for which two days are necessary. The summit is 6 or 7 hrs. distant. The view is one of the finest in Dauphiné. Tourists usually sleep on the hay in the *Granges de Freydières*, about  $2\frac{1}{2}$  hours from Domène. The town of Domène has risen around a Cluniac *Priory*, founded 1027, of whose church picturesque ruins remain. The scenery of the Vallée de Graisivaudan is exceedingly pretty, especially near *Crolles* (1.).



BATHS OF ALLEVARD.

20 k. *Brignoud*. Some distance further, on r., is the old castle of *Adrets*, which gave a name to the terrible baron—whose very name was the symbol of murder and destruction—the leader of the Protestant fanatics, who preached—

‘ Une doctrine armée,  
Un Christ empistolé, tout noirci de fumée,  
Qui, comme un Méhémet, va portant en la main  
Un large coutelas rouge de sang humain.’

*Ronsard.*

26 k. *Tencin*. The large château (r.) built by the Marquis de Monteynard, Minister of Louis XV., replaces an earlier château which belonged to Mme. de Tencin, the unnatural mother of d'Alembert.

30 k. *Goncelin* (Buffet), whence there is an omnibus to (10 k. ; 1 fr. 50 c.) Allevard, passing (7 k.) *S. Pierre d'Allevard*, where the romanesque church belonged to a Cluniac priory, founded xi. c. *Allevard* (Hotels: *des Bains*; *du Louvre*; *du Parc*), situated in the beautiful mountain valley of the Breda, is a pleasant little watering-place with famous *bains d'inhalation*, efficacious in affections of the throat. The *parc* of the xviii. c. château affords pleasant walks. Excursions may be made to the *Chartreuse de S. Hugon* and the *Pont du Diable*. Allevard is also a great centre for Alpine excursions.

The high mountain *Vallée des Sept Laux* is visited from hence, a twelve hours' excursion on foot.

35 k. *Le Cheylas*. Between this and the next station Château Bayard is well seen on a little hill on r.

41 k. *Pontcharra*, on the Breda. 3 k. distant are the small remains of *Château Bayard*, approached by an avenue and entered by a gate between two round towers. The remaining fragments of the building (that in which the famous Pierre de Terrail, Seigneur de Bayard,<sup>1</sup> was born, in 1476) retains its xv. c. windows. The assassination of the Duc de Berri prevented his intention of purchasing and restoring the ruins of the château.

There is an omnibus (40 c.) from Pontcharra to *Barraux*, of which the fortress was of considerable importance before the annexation of Savoie to France.

46 k. *S. Hélène du Lac*. The lake (3 k. r. of the station) is hidden by the hill.

49 k. *Montmélian*, where the line joins that from Turin to Paris.

63 k. Chambéry.]

[A diligence road leads from Grenoble to Briançon, through fine scenery, passing—

<sup>1</sup> Distinguished at the sieges of Brescia and Tournay, he was made lieutenant-general of Dauphiné by François I. He received his death-wound in Italy in 1524.



17 k. *Vizille*. See later.

24 k. *Séchilienne* (Hotel: *du Petit Versailles*), where guides may be obtained for the ascent of *Taillifer* (ascent 7 hrs., descent 3 hrs.), which is surrounded by high peaks and deep valleys.

36 k. *Livet*, whence, by the *Col des Grandes-Escombailles*, Uriage may be reached in 10 hrs.

40 k. *Le-Bourg-d'Oisans* (Hotels: *de Milan*; *de France*), a dreary town, capital of the mountain district called l'Oisans (from the Ueni, its ancient inhabitants), often used as a centre for excursions in the mountains of *Les Grandes Rousses*, which separate



CHÂTEAU BAYARD.

Isère from Savoie and the basin of the Drac from that of the Arc, and which derive their name from the red colour of their granite precipices.

The *Massif d'Oisans* is the only great detached mass of mountains which stands entirely on French soil. With its southern prolongation known as *Champsaur*, this huge mass of granite is completely isolated—on the north by the deep valley of the Romanche and the low pass of Lautaret, on the east and south by the tributaries of the Durance, on the west by the Drac. The mass is usually known as the *Massif du Pelvoux*, on account of its quaint peak, which is seen so well from the valley of the

Durance, and which has such a striking effect, from its two horns of rock separated by a mass of snow; though this height only conceals a more lofty point, known as *Des Arsines*, or *Barre des Écrins*. Another peak, the *Aiguille de Meije* (see later), rises above the ice-fields on the south of the valley of the Romanche.

[1. One of the best of the short day's excursions from Bourg-d'Oisans is that to Venosc. Crossing the Romanche, we must follow the road to Lautaret to beyond the second tunnel, whence a path leads (in 15 min.) to the *Porte Romaine*, also called *Porte d'Annibal*, of which it is unknown whether it was an entrance to a Roman way or a triumphal arch. Beyond the *Porte* the path rises to *Mont-de-Lans*. Leaving the village to l. and turning S., we pass the hamlet of Bons, and reach the *Châlets de l'Alpe de Mont-de-Lans*, whence a gentle ascent leads through pastures to ( $3\frac{1}{2}$  hrs.) the *Col de l'Alpe*, famous for its rare plants. Passing the chalet of the *Alpe de Vénosc*, we can descend by a zigzag path to *Vénosc*, whence there is a road practicable for carriages to Bourg-d'Oisans.

2. To the Lac Blanc. Horses may be taken as far as the meadows of Brandes. Follow the Briançon road as far as the bridge over the Romanche, then turn l. by a path along fields to the *Cascade de la Sarenne*. Crossing the stream, turn N. to (3 k.) *La Garde*. Hence the path becomes steep, passing the chapel and bell tower of *S. Ferreol* on l., to *Huez*. Thence the path ascends to the plateau of *Brandes*, with ruins of an ancient village and of deserted silver mines, above which rises the *Tour du Prince Ladre* (supposed to have been a brigand-chief), with the chapel of *S. Nicolas* near it, to which those women who wish to marry within the year go on pilgrimage, and leave a stone at the feet of the saint. By a path to the N., leaving a quarry of anthracite to the r., and crossing a line of rocks which are relics of an ancient moraine, we find ourselves on the shore of the *Lac Blanc* (700 by 100 mèt.), so called from the colour of its sulphurous waters. Hence it is very easy to make the ascent of *Herpie*, whence there is a wide view.

3. A more striking expedition is that which may be made with mules to S. Christophe (5 hrs.) Carriages may be taken as far as Vénosc, where the beautiful mountain pastures are a paradise of botanists. Descending the hill of Vénosc by a winding path, and passing the hamlet of *Bourgdaru*, we cross the Vénéon, and in 10 min. reach the chaos called *Le Clapier de S. Christophe*. The gorge is filled with fragments fallen from the *Soreillier*, which



S. CHRISTOPHE-EN-OISANS.

risers on the S. A winding path leads between the rocks and crosses a natural bridge over the stream, whence we ascend the r. bank of the Vénéon, and see on the r. the *Cascade de l'Enchâtra*. At the upper end of the *Plan du Lac* the path ascends by the *Fontaines Bénites*, and crosses the *Pont du Diable*, whence a steep and stony way ascends to (19 k. from Bourg-d'Oisans) *S. Christophe-en-Oisans* (Auberge : *Turc. Guides*), with vast mountain pastures intersected by glaciers and torrent beds. Hence the glacier

of *Mont de Lans* may be visited. Hence, also, in less than 3 hrs., we may reach the hamlet of *La Bérarde*, at the convergence of several valleys. A fatiguing walk of 7 hrs. from S. Christophe will take the mountaineer to the wild *Col des Cavales* ( $1\frac{1}{2}$  hrs. from La Bérarde), on the crest of the mountains which divide the department of Isère from that of the Hautes-Alpes. Here snow-clad peaks and fields of ice are seen on every side.]



VALLÉE DE LA BÉRARDE.<sup>1</sup>

Leaving Bourg-d'Oisans by a mountain-road, passing several galleries, and then following the gorge of the Romanche, we reach—

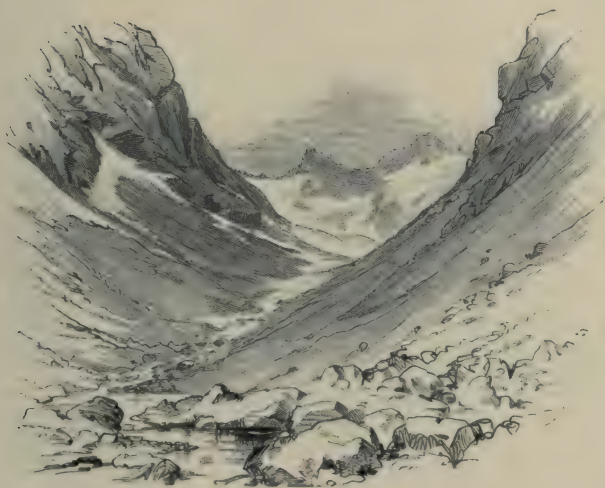
61 k. *La Frésney*, beyond which the defile of the Romanche becomes very narrow and striking. After crossing the stream, the road enters the narrow *Combe de Malaval*. At 67 k. (on l.) is the *Cascade de la Pisse*.

<sup>1</sup> This, and several other of the woodcuts of Alpine peaks, are from photographs.



74 k. *La Grave* (Hotel : *Juge*. Guides by tariff), whence there is a view of the *Glaciers de l'Homme et de Tabuchet*, overlooked on the S. by the huge mass of *the Meije*, or *Aiguille du Midi* (3,987 mè.). It is from hence that the dangerous ascent of the *Meije* is usually attempted.

Two galleries, and meadows famous for their plants, are



COL DE CAVALES.

passed before arriving at (82 k.) the *Col de Lautaret* (2,057 mè.), a wild and dismal spot, where a still-existing hospice commemorates one founded in the middle-ages for travellers. The road now reaches the upper valley of the *Guisanne*, and follows the course of that river to—

96 k. *Le Monêtier de Briançon*, with mineral springs, and a church with a stone spire.

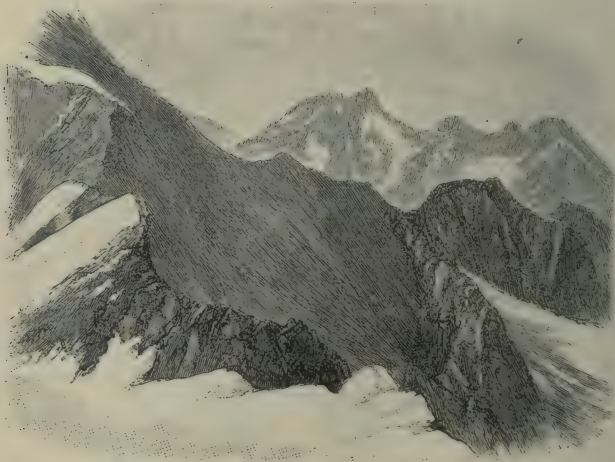
111 k. *Briançon*. See later.]

[A line runs S.W. from Grenoble to Valence, by —

19 k. *Moirans*. See p. 455.

27 k. *Tullins* (Hotel: *Boullier*), a small bathing-place which has remains of ancient fortifications, and of a castle of the Dauphin Guignes VIII.

41 k. *Vinay*, whence an excursion may be made (5 k.) to the modern pilgrimage chapel of *Notre Dame de l'Osier* on the site



THE MEIJE.

of a chapel built, in 1657, by Marguerite de Montagny, where the Virgin appeared to remonstrate with a Huguenot for cutting willows on her fête of the Annunciation, and blood gushed forth from the severed boughs. 20,000 pilgrims still come hither annually.

51 k. *S. Marcellin* (Hotel: *de la Poste*). An excursion of 11 k. may be made to the remains of the Abbey of *S. Antoine*, now occupied by a convent and a silk factory. It was founded

in the xi. c. by one Jocelin, who had brought back some of the bones of S. Anthony from Constantinople. In 1080, a little hospital was built here for the use of sick pilgrims, to the care of whom a number of gentlemen of Dauphiné devoted themselves, thus founding the order of Antonins (1095), which soon had houses all over Europe. The mother abbey, enriched by endless royal visitors, was pillaged by the Protestants in the xvi. c., when its tombs were outraged, and the order was finally abolished in 1768, being incorporated with the Knights of Malta,



LE COL DE LAUTARET.

and replaced here by canonesses, who were driven out by the Revolution. The noble *Church*, of the xiii. c., has a beautiful portal, much mutilated by the Huguenots. The choir is earlier than the nave, which has a double triforium and sixteen side chapels. The high altar of 1667 supports a shrine with the relics of S. Antoine.

[A road leads through picturesque scenery from S. Marcellin to (70 k.) *Die* (ch. viii.), passing (at 15 k.) *Pont-en-Royans* (Hotel: *Dubouchet*), the ancient capital of the Royannais, a most curious and striking place. The houses, perched on the edge of walls

of perpendicular cliff, or projecting over them on supports of timber, overhang the torrent Vernaison at a great height, and a narrow bridge of a single arch over the abyss unites the two parts of the town. Soon after leaving Pont-en-Royans, the road, following the defile of the Vernaison, passes through several



PONT-EN-ROYANS.

tunnels, where the river bores a hole through the rock known as *Les Petits Goulets*, and—beyond the *Vallée de l'Échevis*—pierces the rock again by *Les Grands Goulets*, thus uniting the districts of Royannais and Vercors.]

62 k. S. *Hilaire du Rosier*. 2 k. is S. *Nazaire-en-Royans*



with a ruined castle, 5 k. W. of which is the fine ruined castle of *Rochechinard*, which belonged to the family of Allemann, and where Zisim, brother of the Emperor Bajazet, was imprisoned in 1485. It is a very picturesque spot.

79 k. *Romans* (Hotel: *de l'Europe*). The church of S.



LES GRANDS GOULETS.

*Barnard* has a romanesque XI. c. portal. The choir and transept are XIII. c. In one of the buttresses of the choir is part of the inscription belonging to the tomb of S. Barnard, founder of the church and abbey. The *Grand Séminaire* was once a Franciscan monastery.

99 k. Valence.]

Except to those who use it as a means of seeing the country, no railway can be more annoying than the single line from Grenoble to the S., with its crawling trains and endless stoppages at unimportant stations. At the same time, there is no other line which passes through such fine mountain scenery, and which has such a variety of beautiful views.

14 k. *Vizille* (Hotel: *Terrat*). The town, 3 k. W., up the gorge of the Romanche (omnibus, 30 c.), was the ancient *Vigilia*—*Castra Vigiliae*, a station on the military way from Italy to Vienne. The château (Mme. Casimir Périer) was formerly a hunting seat of the Dauphins. Guignes V. died there in 1162; Catherine, daughter of Guignes VII., was married there to a brother of the Comte de Savoie; and Guignes VIII. lived there with the beautiful Jeanne, whom he had carried off from her father, François de Bardonneche. The château was afterwards rebuilt and inhabited (1611-20) by Lesdiguières—'le vieux renard de Dauphiné.' Madeleine de Bonne, his daughter by his first wife, married the Maréchal de Créqui. Her son married his aunt, Catherine de Bonne (daughter of Lesdiguières and his second wife, Marie Vignon). Eventually the Maréchal de Créqui married the third sister, Françoise de Bonne, daughter of Marie Vignon. From this family the château passed to that of Villeroy. The last Duc de Villeroy sold it in 1775 to Claude Périer, a tradesman of Grenoble.

From the meetings held within the walls of the château by the representatives of the municipalities of Dauphiné, it became one of the cradles of the great French Revolution.

' M. Périer, fort noblement, avait préparé des tables pour servir quatre cents personnes. La salle d'armes du vieux connétable Lesdiguières était préparée pour faire siéger dignement cette première de nos assemblées.

' Le secrétaire était Monnier, juge royal de Grenoble, homme capable, fort mesuré, qui avait tenu la plume avec adresse et courage dans les réunions de la ville. L'assemblée s'ouvrit à huit heures, s'organisa jusqu'à onze, examina les mémoires proposés jusqu'à minuit, signa jusqu'à quatre heures du matin.



CHATEAU DE VIZILLE.

Tout ainsi fut consommé dans un long jour de juillet. On arrêta que voulant montrer à la France un exemple d'union, d'attachement à la monarchie, on n'octroyerait les impôts qu'après délibération dans les États-généraux,—que le Tiers-Etat aurait autant de députés que les deux autres ordres réunis'—*Michelet*.

Recently, the château has been restored by M. Casimir Périer, whose family have a factory here. The gate which

opens upon the cour d'honneur, is surmounted by an equestrian statue, in relief, of the great Constable, by Jacques Richer. The principal and very stately façade looks upon a sheet of water, in which the beautiful Marie Vignon, mistress, and afterwards wife, of Lesdiguières, fed her trout, for catching one of which and offering it to the lady, a peasant was hung by the Constable, who caused the event to be commemorated in a bas-relief, still existing. A double staircase leads up to the château from the water. Legend asserts the unfinished wall of the beautiful park, which runs up into the hollows of the mountains, to be the work of the devil, who undertook to build it before Lesdiguières could ride round it, but was vanquished by the speed of the Constable.

[A mountain road leads from Grenoble by Vizille to Gap by (50 k. from Vizille) Corps (see p. 481), whence the pilgrimage to La Salette is made.]

Leaving Vizille, the line passes l. *Champ*, where the church has a romanesque portal and some obscure ruins of the *Priory of S. Michel de Conex*, which had an xi. c. church. In the interior is a vaulted dome. A crypt extends under the whole church, and has a heavy pillar under the dome.

19 k. *S. George-de-Commiers*.

[Diligence (3 frs.; 2 frs. 50 c.) to (15 k.) *La Motte-les-Bains* (Hotel in the bathing establishment of the château), on the Vaux rivulet, a point for ascents of *Mont-Eynard* (7 hrs.), and the *Senappé* (6½ hrs.).

21 k. *Vif* (Hotel: *de l'Union*). The church (2 k. from railway) is supposed to date from viii. c. The nave, aisles, and tribunes are of late xii. c., the tower rebuilt in xvii. c. The mairie is in an ancient priory of xi. c. The



line now makes a very sharp turn, and zigzags up the mountain side.

33 k. *S. Martin-de-la-Cluze*. 1 k. N. is the ancient *Château de Pâquier*. 30 minutes' walk from the station is *La Fontaine ardente*, where gas escapes and gives a blue flame. We see (l.) the fine rocky chain overlooking the valley of the Gresse. The line descends and ascends,



LE MONT AIGUILLE.

following the windings of the hill, and with increasingly fine views, to—

57 k. *Clelles-Mens*, whence the *Mont-Aiguille* (2,097 mèr.) is ascended—with difficulty and danger. Formerly known as *Mont Inaccessible*, the rock was first scaled in the year of the discovery of America.

The line skirts a precipice, with fine views of moun-

tains, amongst which the Obiou, the Mont Aiguille, and the Farraud are conspicuous, to—

67 k. *S. Maurice-en-Trièves*.

82 k. *Lus-la-Croix-Haute*. The village (on l.) is strikingly situated, backed by bare jagged peaks and perpendicular rocks, and mountains covered with snow till late in the summer. The line now descends into the valley of the Buech, between mountains upon which bears are frequently seen, to—

89 k. *S. Julien-en-Beauchène* (Hotel: *Dousselin*). One hour distant, in a lonely valley, is the ruined *Chartreuse-de-Durbon*, built 1116-28. On a narrow promontory of rock, l. of the line, is a tower, said to be Saracenic.

110 k. *Veynes*, the Roman Vedetum.

[A line branches off E., through a wooded valley with pretty scenery, to—

27 k. *Gap* (Hotel: *de Provence*—very good and clean, the best inn between Grenoble and Aix), the ancient Vapincum, capital of the Département des Hautes-Alpes. There is nothing whatever, except the rarity of a good hotel, to detain the traveller at Gap, a small town, surrounded by dreary mountains covered with snow till late in the year. The earlier cathedral and the ancient church of S. Jean le Rond were destroyed by the Protestants under Furmeyer in 1562. One clean street fringes the town, a labyrinth of dirty alleys, in the centre of which is the *Cathedral of Notre Dame*, demolished in 1866, and rebuilt in the romanesque style, with alternate courses of red and white stone. Close by stands the pleasant little *Évêché*, less miserable than most French episcopal residences. The tomb of the famous Lesdiguières—(François de Bonne, 1543—1626), the savage general in Piedmont for Henri IV., a Protestant soldier, converted late in life to Catholicism by his mistress, Marie Vignon—has been taken to the *Préfecture*, where the porter will show it, when the council is not sitting. It is a sarcophagus in black marble,

with reliefs in alabaster, bearing an armed figure by Jacob Richier.

'Élisabeth d'Angleterre faisait grand cas de ce général. S'il y avait en France deux Lesdiguières, disait-elle un jour, j'en demanderais un au roi.'—*Hoefer*.

The natives of Gap are known as Gavots.

15 k. from Gap is the much-frequented pilgrimage church of *Notre Dame de Laus*. Those who do not care to go to Briançon may visit Embrun in the day from Gap.

[The pilgrimage to the famous sanctuary of La Salette is usually and most conveniently made from Gap. Carriages may be obtained at the hotel at very reasonable prices, varying according to the time employed. Merely on account of scenery, the excursion is *not* worth while.

It is a drive of about five hours from Gap to Corps. A long and wearisome ascent leads out of Gap; then the road descends, leaving the large village of *S. Bonnet* to the r. At 31 k. the small ruins of the *Château de Diguières*, which belonged to the great Constable, are seen on the l. At 48 k. is *Corps* (Hotel: *de la Poste*—very humble, but clean), a rather picturesque village grouped around the church, which has a low spire.

Horses for La Salette, 3 fr. 50 c.; carriages (ascent 5 fr., descent 3 fr. 50 c.) can only be taken for a short distance.

Having once been shown by the innkeeper the point where the path to La Salette turns aside (r.) from the dirty street of Corps, it cannot again be mistaken (guide absurd). The ascent on foot takes 3 hrs., the descent 2 hrs. In the mists of early morning the first part of the valley is rather pretty, but there is no fine scenery. Artists will probably sketch Corps from the first turn in the path to La Salette.

The road runs along a ridge in a narrow valley, then, crossing a brook at the end of a gorge, it becomes much steeper and the valley narrower. Soon after passing two chapels, the stream is crossed again. Near a white house the road turns l. and passes through a hamlet and in front of its church. Then the path (no longer available for carriages) turning l. along the exposed side

of the hill becomes very steep and tedious, scorching in summer, and bleak and snow-drifted in winter. Only after many wearisome zigzags does it come in sight of La Salette, looking like a great factory with a church attached to it, on a dismal ridge,



LA SALETTE.

overhung to the S. by Mont Planeau, to the W. by Mont Chamoux, and to the N. by Mont Gargas.

The story of La Salette is the most remarkable known instance of modern superstition. It tells how two children, Mélanie Mathieu, aged fourteen, and Maximin Giraud, aged twelve, were guarding cows upon the mountains on Sept. 19, 1846, when they saw a lady



sitting on a stone, 'weeping bitterly, with tears which seemed like sparks of fire,' whilst the figure of the lady itself was so radiant that 'the sun seemed dark by comparison.' Having encouraged the children to come near, the lady told them that she 'was weeping over the ingratitude of mankind and their future punishment; that if men refused to repent she should be compelled to let the arm of her Son fall upon them, it was becoming too heavy for her to support; it was the breaking of the Sabbath and taking her Son's name in vain, which, more than all other sins, would draw down the coming punishment. These it was which had caused the failure of the potato crop, and on account of these, it would be useless to plant corn, for that would perish also. A great famine was approaching, but before that time all children under seven years old would tremble and die in the arms which held them: the grapes would moulder and the nuts decay.' As soon as the lady had uttered these curses, the children recognised the blessed Virgin in the speaker, but afterwards she spoke to each of them separately, and she then confided to them a secret which they were never to reveal to anyone but the Pope himself. Then the lady glided, rather than walked, along the grass, rose in the air, remained suspended for a moment, and gradually vanished into the clouds.

This story, when first told by the children, gave rise to great controversy. Some of the French bishops accepted it, and some contested it. Two priests dared to assert that a certain Mademoiselle de Lamerlière was the contriver and author of the supposed miracle. But the Bishop of Valence advocated the truth of the whole story, and upon May 25, 1852, laid the foundation stone of the church, which was finished in 1861, and has since been enriched by a pulpit from Belgium, and ex-votos from all parts of the world. Over the high-altar is a group in stucco representing the appearance to the two children. In the sacristy are the stone on which they saw the Virgin sitting, and a crown of jewels offered to the Virgin (by the Empress Eugénie?). There is a vast Hôtellerie for pilgrims, women being received and most kindly cared for by the Soeurs de la Providence, and men by the missionary fathers, who have a large school here. The cold is so great on this icy platform that large fires are required in summer as well as winter. The concourse, especially

on the date of the Apparition (Sept. 19), is enormous,—hundreds are obliged to sleep in the open air; but the Abbé Lemonnier (Pèlerinage à la Salette) affirms that ‘out of 60,000 persons who, in one year, passed the night thus in prayer, their knees in the snow, their heads in the icy mist, not one caught cold.’ In ‘good years’ the number of pilgrims is now 15,000.

Opposite the church is the point of ‘the Assumption,’ marked by a group of the Virgin and the children, given



EMBRUN.

by a rich Spaniard. Below this rises *La Fontaine de la Vierge*, the waters of which are sent to all parts of the world. The path by which the Virgin ascended, before finally disappearing, is marked by fourteen wooden crosses, by which the pilgrims often follow ‘le chemin de la croix’ upon their knees. Higher up is a little chapel, near the cemetery for those who die at La Salette. A brisk trade is carried on by the Sisters in ‘objets de piété:’ they also beg from strangers for the lighting of the church.

The snow is very deep at La Salette till the end of April.

The missionaries stay from the beginning of May till the end of October, inhabiting Grenoble in the winter. One alone remains, with the nuns, upon the mountain, to receive the few pilgrims who brave the winter snows. Of the two favoured children, Maximin died in 1875 at Corps as a 'fabricant de



CATHEDRAL PORCH, EMBRUN.

liqueurs,' and Mélanie still lives (1890), as a Carmelite nun, at Marseilles.]

The line continues up the valley of the Durance to—

65 k. (from Veynes) *Embrun* (Hotel: *de la Poste*—miserable), the ancient Ebrodunum, occupying a rocky plateau below Mont S. Guillaume. The little town, deprived of its walls, has the aspect of a Swiss village, from its white houses and high slated roofs. The *Cathedral*, of XI. c., has a romanesque tower, and

stone spire. The arches of the XIII. c. façade are striped in yellow and grey stone. On the N. is a beautiful romanesque portal with lions and twisted red marble pillars. On the r. of the W. entrance is a font, probably Roman, resting on a lion; on the l. side is a curious hanging gallery, ending in a tourelle, between two pillars, and the organ given by Louis XI., whose last words were: 'Notre Dame d'Embrun, ma bonne maîtresse, ayez pitié de moi.'



CHÂTEAU QUEYRAS.

Opposite the N. porch is the interesting XIV. c. *Maison du Prévôt*, decorated with monsters. Behind the cathedral is the square *Tour Brune*, of XI. c.

[There is a road from Embrun to (84 k.) Sisteron by the valley of the Durance, passing (42 k.) *Tallard*, where there are fine ruins of an XI. c. château, with a renaissance chapel.]

82 k. *Mont Dauphin*, fortified by Vauban. The brown walls of the town crown the brown surface of a sterile rocky hill, surrounded by a distant mountain landscape.



[5 k. S. is the dismal mountain town of *Guillestre*, with a red marble church of 1507-32, which has a portal with columns resting on lions. A road passes hence through the savage gorge called *La Combe de Queyras* to (24 k.) *Château Queyras* (Hotel: *de Monte Viso*—very humble), an exceedingly picturesque place, with a fortress on a pyramidal rock, and (36 k.) *Abriès* (Hotel: *Richard*), famous for its cattle fairs.

A great number of mountain excursions may be made from



LES MAMELLES.

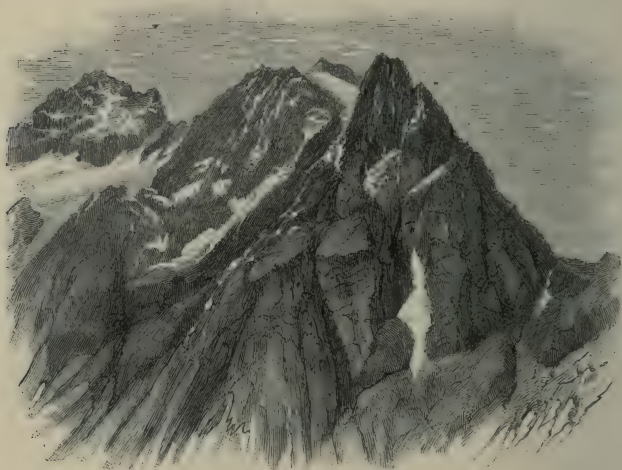
*Château Queyras*, which would be an admirable centre for artists if there were a better hotel. Endless fine subjects may be found between *Château Queyras* and *Ceillat*, by the *Col de Fromage* (3 hrs.), where the twin rocks called *Les Mamelles* are a conspicuous feature.]

The line follows the valley of the *Durance*.

96 k. *L'Argentière—La Bessée*. Hence a mountain road leads to the Alpine village of (27 k.) *Ville Vallonaise*. It passes through a district celebrated in the wars of the *Vaudois* against their

Catholic persecutors. On r., far above the road, are remains of fortifications, called *le mur des Vaudois*. From Vallouise the savage *Mont Pelvoux* (12 hrs.) may be ascended.

‘De même que les Alpes du Viso, celles du Pelvoux abritaient autrefois des populations libres, et la présence de quelques groupes de protestants épars dans les hautes vallées



LE MONT PELVOUX.

rappelle encore les temps de l'ancienne indépendance. Mais le gros des Vaudois qui habitaient la Vallouise, la plus belle vallée du massif, a complètement péri. On montre, à la base orientale du Pelvoux, la profonde ‘balme’ Chapelu, qui servit longtemps d’asile aux Vaudois persécutés, et où, pendant une nuit d’orage, on les égorga tous. De nos jours, la population de la Vallouise est une des plus arriérées de la France, une de celles qui vivent dans la misère la plus sordide; les huttes sont sales, la nourriture est insuffisante et malsaine, aucune règle de hygiène n’est

observée, et dans maint village le tiers des enfants qui naissent deviennent de malheureux crétins.'—*Élisée Reclus*.

The Durance is now seen passing a narrow defile of rock.

103 k. *S. Martin-de-Queyrières*, near which, at *Sachas*, are an extraordinary succession of natural columns, relics of an ancient moraine.



AT BRIANÇON.

The line continues upon the slopes of arid mountains, along precipices, through tunnels, and following the Durance till it becomes a small mountain torrent, to—

109 k. *Briançon* (Hotels: *Terminus*, in the station—very good; *de la Paix*, in the town—bad), the Roman Brigantium. A fortress of the first class, 2 k. from the station, on a plateau above the confluence of the Durance and the Guisanne, backed by the mountain of *La Croix-de-Toulouse* (1,973 mè.), above which rises the *S. Chaffrey* (2,570 mè.). The device of the town is

—‘Petite ville et grand renom.’ It is a curious, but not at all a picturesque place. Its houses, massed in a lofty nook of the hills, end in a large hunchbacked, twin-towered church. It is surrounded by a triple line of walls and protected by seven forts, watching the Italian frontier. The scenery is savage and bare, without being grand. A very steep ascent leads from the station to the town, which is entered by three gates and draw-



LE LAC DE L'ÉCHAUDA.

bridges, and there is no town in France which has so steep a street as La Grande Rue de Briançon, paved with pebbles, and with a stone channel for a rushing streamlet down the middle. There is nothing in the place older than a Protestant temple (opposite the church, at the angle of the Rues de la Mairie and du Temple), dating from 1575, now a private house.

There is a road from Briançon to Turin or Pignerol by the *Col du Mont-Genèvre* (Mons Janus). At 49 k. from Briançon, is passed the fort of *Fenestrelles* (Finis terrae), where Saintine places



the scene of his *Picciola*, and where Xavier de Maistre, as a prisoner, wrote his *Voyage autour de ma chambre*.]

[An interesting excursion may be made from Briançon by hiring a carriage to (15 k.) *Monétier*, whence a guide should be taken to the beautiful and desolate *Lac de l'Échauda* (or *de Montagnose*), at the N.E. extremity of the glacier of Séguret-Foran, which plunges into the lake, and of which the open crevasses of ice may be seen through the still waters partially unfrozen.

4 hrs. from Monétier is the mountain hamlet of *Les Claux* (Auberge : *Bornéoud*), a miserable group of chalets, whence the ascent of *Mont Pelvoux* (4,103 mè.) is often made. The excursion occupies two days, the ascent requiring at least 12 hrs., the descent 7 hrs. The mountain can only be ascended during the few weeks of summer (in August) when its highest steepes are free from snow. A guide charges 35 fr. The ascent is monotonous and devoid of character, but the view from the summit is the finest in the Western Alps.]

125 k. *Serres* (Hotel : *Moulin*). The mairie, in the middle of the town, was once the house of Lesdiguières. The church is XII. c.

159 k. *Sisteron* (Hotel : *Nègre*—best, but rough and dirty ; *Pardigon*), the Roman Segestero, which became the seat of a bishopric in IV. c. The first appearance of this striking place will take the traveller by surprise. The town lies at the foot of a great rock crowned and covered by fortifications, in arches, walls, and terraces of great picturesqueness, and the Durance, here a rushing mountain torrent, alone separates it from a tremendous precipice of jagged mountain. On this side the town walls have been destroyed, but their towers remain. At the entrance of the city stands the former cathedral of *Notre Dame*, of XI. c. and XII. c. The W. front has the peculiarity of the arcades and their gables at the side of the W. portal being cut by buttresses

apparently constructed at the same time. Over the cross is an octagon surrounded by little columns, which once supported a cupola. The interior is magnificent in its simple, stately forms, and deep brown unrestored masonry, the stained glass and pictures lending brilliant points of colour to the dark surface. It is a cathedral to paint.

It is only after passing through the dirty street of Sisteron, emerging from its farther gate, and crossing the ravine by



SISTERON.

its bridge of a single arch, that an idea can be formed of its splendid position. The castle and fortifications are then seen crowning a rugged mountain pierced with casements, whilst the gate and the tall old houses rising abruptly from the river, with the ruined campanile of *S. Dominique*, built of courses of red and white stone, occupying the rocks in the foreground, combine into a picture never to be forgotten. An artist will also find grand subjects under the old gothic archways and lofty buildings of the town. Casimir of

Poland, brother of Ladislaus VII., was imprisoned in the citadel. The old *Hôtel Lesdiguières* contains some good tapestries.

176 k. *S. Auban*.

[Hence there is a branch of 42 k. to—

218 k. *Digne* (Hotels: *Boyer*—good, and really clean; *du Commerce; du Nord*), the Roman *Dinia*, the capital of the



THE GORGE OF SISTERON.

department of Basses-Alpes. The town, situated in a niche, by the usually dry bed of the Bléone, is divided into three parts—*la tête, le mitau (milieu), et le pied*. The principal promenade (*Pré du Foire*) near *Hôtel Boyer*, is rather picturesque, planted with plane-trees, and adorned with a statue (by Ramus of Marseilles) of Gassendi, the astronomer and demi-sceptic philosopher, born at Champtercier, near this, in 1592. Behind rises the tower of the cathedral, crowned with open ironwork. The building has been so often restored as to have little interest; the façade has a rose-window and a gothic portal with Christ and the symbolical beasts

of the Apocalypse on the tympanum. In a chapel r. of the nave is the tomb of a bishop, of 1615. A statue of S. Vincent de Paul is by Dalmas, 1869. A prison occupies the site of the episcopal palace. Beyond the avenue of planes which opens from the Pré du Foire, at the end of the town, is the earlier cathedral of *Notre Dame*, of XII. c. and XIII. c. (keys at the bureau de l'octroi, near the E. end of the church). Over the portal is a splendid rose-window, and the lions of the porch remain. The grandiose, semi-desecrated interior is very striking and simple. It contains some remains of frescoes, and a number of mummied bodies are preserved in one of the transepts.

'Lorsqu'on pénètre à l'intérieur on est frappé de la noblesse et de la majesté qui y règnent. Le plan est de forme de croix latine. La nef est formée de quatre travées, dont les arcs, ainsi que ceux des voûtes, sont rompus au sommet. Les colonnes sont généralement bien dessinées et couronnées de chapiteaux élégants. Quelques fenêtres sont ornées de trilobes.'—*Bourrasse*.

[A road runs N.W. from Digne by (43 k.) *Seyne des Alpes*, which has an early gothic church, to (86 k.) *Barcelonnette* (Hotel: *du Nord*), situated on a mountain plateau, and dating from 1231. Its *Tour de l'Horloge* formerly belonged to a Dominican convent. A fountain commemorates Antoine Manuel, the orator of the Restauration, and is inscribed with the words of Béranger, 'Bras, tête, et coeur, tout était peuple en lui.' The natives of *Barcelonnette* and its neighbourhood have almost monopolized the muslin and calico trade in Mexico.<sup>1</sup> A short distance from *Barcelonnette* to l. of the road on arriving from Digne, is *S. Pons*, with a church of very early foundation (VI. c. ?), possessing a richly sculptured S. portal and a gothic spire. A wild mountain road leads from *Barcelonnette* to Coni, by (8 k.) *Jausiers*, famous in the history of the Vaudois, and (29 k.) the *Col de Larche*, celebrated for the sudden passage of the French army into Italy, under Bayard, in 1515.]

[The road, which runs S.E. from Digne to (125 k.) Grasse, passes—

<sup>1</sup> See Lewis Green, *A Peep at Mexico*, 1874.



16 k. The gorge called *La Clus de Chabrières*.

23 k. *Norante*. On the r. is a ruined castle, on the l. the ruin called *Château-plus-Haut*.

36 k. *Senéz*, the Roman *Senetium*, long a bishopric. The former cathedral is romanesque of XII. c. and XIII. c. 3 k. further the road enters a very narrow gorge.

55 k. *Castellane* (Hotel: *du Levant; du Commerce*), a very curious old walled town, once the capital of the *Suetri*, with a college occupying an Augustinian convent, and a lofty bridge of a single arch, overhung by the precipitous *Roc de Castellane*.]

181 k. *Peyruis*, which also serves the little town of (2 k.) *Les Mees*, on the opposite bank of the Durance, at the foot of an extraordinary chain of rocks, like ninepins, sugar-loaves, etc.—the Dolomites in miniature.

189 k. *Lurs*, has a ruined castle of the bishops of Sisteron.

3½ k. N. is *Ganagobie*, which has interesting remains of a Cluniac priory, founded IX. c.—a chapter house, romanesque cloister, and church with a curious XII. c. portal.

[For the road from Lurs to Apt by Reillanne see ch. viii.]

194 k. *La Brillanne*.

3½ k. N.W. is the pilgrimage chapel of *Notre Dame des Anges*, marking the site of the military station of *Alaunium*.

202 k. *Volx*.

[16 k. W. is *Forcalquier* (Hotel: *Lardeyret*)—Forum *calcaurium*. The church of *Notre Dame-de-la-Merci* (formerly cathedral) has an XI. c. nave, XIII. c. transept and apse, and XVII. c. aisles: the portal is surmounted by a rose-window. The picturesque *Fontaine Gothique* is XV. c. Beyond the *Porte des Cordeliers* is a ruined castle demolished by Henri IV. From the terrace of a modern chapel built amongst the ruins, is a good view.

209 k. *Manosque* (Hotel: *Pascal*—good country inn,

with most obliging landlord). The hotel is just outside the town, which is entered by a very curious gate, *Porte de Soubeiran*, with romanesque arcades. The church of *S. Sauveur* has a campanile of open ironwork. In *Notre Dame* is a statue of the Virgin, dating from v. c. or vi. c., and



PORTE DE SOUBEIRAN, MANOSQUE.

an altar formed from a sarcophagus of the same period. At the further end of the narrow street is the tall *Porte de la Saunerie*.

[Roman archaeologists will sleep at Manosque and drive thence (36 k.) to *Riez* (*Colonia Augusta Reiorum*). A carriage with two horses for the day from *Hôtel Pascal* costs 15 fr.

After crossing the wide bed of the *Durance* by a suspension

bridge, the road leads up the arid sides, and across the dreary plateau of the hills, to where a huge ruined XIII. c. castle, founded by the Templars, looks down upon *Gréoulx* (Hotel: *du Grand Jardin*), a dull village, with mineral baths much frequented for rheumatism and scrofula. 2 k. distant is the little *Château de Laval*, which belonged to the Princess Pauline Borghese, and was sometimes inhabited by her.

Hence our route winds along the valley of the Verdon, then of the Colostre to *S. Martin de Brômes*, overlooked by a tall square tower.



COLUMNS OF RIEZ.

Before entering *Riez* (Hotel: *des Alpes*) the Alebece Reiorum Apollinarium of the Romans, we see on l., prettily situated near a ford of the limpid brook Colostre, *Four Corinthian Columns* of grey Esterel granite, with capitals and bases of marble, and still supporting their marble architrave.

On the other side of the brook, near the dusty space (Champ de Foire) regarded as the ancient forum, is the curious little monument known in the country as *Le Temple* or *Le Panthéon* (the key is at the Hôtel de Ville). It is square externally, but octagonal within.

‘Chacun des quatre côtés correspondant aux angles du carré extérieur est muni d’une abside semi-circulaire, prise dans l’épaisseur même de la construction. Les huit colonnes disposées en rond au milieu de l’édifice le divisent en basse nef circulaire et en rotonde centrale, et portent huit arcs cintrés qui soutiennent un tambour octagonal, au-dessus duquel s’élève un dôme bandé sur arcs méplats.’—*Jules de Laurière, ‘Bulletin Monumental.’*

The eight columns are the only part of the edifice dating from Roman times; they—unequal in size—have evidently been brought



LE TEMPLE, RIEZ.

from different buildings. The discovery of remains of an early font proves that the building was a very early baptistery.

Near the modern chapel of *S. Maxime* (1857) on the top of the hill of Riez, is a square tower with a stone spire, which contains six Roman columns disposed in a hemicycle. The xiv. c. cathedral was ruined under the Ligue; it has been recently rebuilt. The old episcopal palace exists, but is greatly dilapidated. The Rue Droite has curious houses of xiv. c. and xv. c., and a very tall fortified gateway. Small Roman fragments are to be seen everywhere.

The return from Riez to Manosque may be varied by taking the road through *Valensole*, a little town of striking outline, like an Italian city.]



244 k. *Pertuis*, has XIII. c. towers. On the *Lez* are the ruins of the château (XVI. c.) of the barons of Cental, with a romanesque donjon.

[For the line from hence to Avignon by Cavaillon see ch. viii.]

276 k. *Aix* (Hotels: *Nègre-Coste*—very good indeed; *du Louvre*; *de la Mule Noire*), the ancient capital of Provence, now the capital of the Département des Bouches-du-Rhône, and the seat of an archbishopric. The city which Charles de Brosses (1739) found ‘la plus jolie ville de France après Paris,’ no longer calls forth much admiration from travellers. The town has changed its site three times. The Gaulish Entremont was on a height 3 k. from the existing town; the Roman Aquæ Sextiæ, supposed to be the earliest station of the Romans in Gaul, of which nothing remains, stood to the W. of the present town, and was utterly destroyed by the Saracens. It was at Aix that the Counts of Provence held their court in XII. c., and King René instituted here the celebrated procession of the Fête Dieu, last seen in 1851.

Aix is a very clean, well-built, and exceedingly dull city, continually ravaged by the Mistral in its full violence. Formerly the small noblesse of Provence met here for a winter season, and there are many handsome mansions with heavy portals divided by caryatides. An avenue of planes, called the *Cours Mirabeau*, divides the town. To the r. of the Cours is the church of *S. Jean de Malte*, of 1231, with a XIV. c. spire, containing (in the chapel l. of altar) the fine restored tomb of Alphonso II. of Provence, his wife, and his son Raymond Béranger IV., under whom Aix enjoyed its golden age. The *Musée*, in the ancient Commanderie

de Malte, has some Roman remains, and a very fine early sarcophagus showing the destruction of Pharaoh in the Red Sea, and at the sides, Joseph before Pharaoh, and the Gathering of Manna. Otherwise, there is the usual archeological collection and picture-gallery. A statue of King René in the former is by David d'Angers.

In the centre of the streets on l. of the Cours is the *Hôtel de Ville* of 1640-68, joining the quaint old *Tour de l'Horloge*. Hence the Rue de l'Horloge leads to the *Cathedral of S. Sauveur*, the successor of a basilica which occupied the site of a temple of Apollo. The W. front and octagonal tower are rich xiv. c. gothic. The panels of the principal door (1476) are curiously carved with prophets and sibyls in walnut wood. The central aisle of the triple nave is of 1285; the r. aisle has an octagonal cupola. On the r. of the S. aisle is a baptistery of the vi. c., restored in viii. c., and supported by eight columns of antique marble and granite from the temple of the Sun. Against the r. wall of the nave are two curious pictures—the first is a triptych, in which the central panel represents the Burning Bush. The shutters have the Annunciation on the outside, and on the inside King René and his second wife, Jeanne de Laval; he with his patrons—the Magdalen, Anthony, and Maurice; she with hers—John, Nicolas, and Catherine. The work has been attributed to René himself, but is really by *Van der Meire*, a pupil of Van Eyck. The other picture, representing the incredulity of S. Thomas, is by Louis Finsonius of Bruges, 1613. The choir is hung with curious tapestries made at Arras, representing the life of Christ. In the N. aisle is a remarkable xv. c. altar-piece, representing the origin of the Chevaliers du Croissant instituted by King

René. In the chapel near it is a fine gothic tomb. On the S. is a beautiful little romanesque *Cloister*, with columns of great variety and arcades which are a lapidary museum, and contain a iv. c. sarcophagus and some quaint statues.

The ancient baths of Sextius are commemorated by a modern bathing-establishment.

[The important excursion to the Sainte-Baume may be made in a very long and fatiguing day from Aix, but it is better to sleep at S. Maximin.]

[An excursion may be made by carriage to (15 k.) *Vauvenargues* (Vallis Veranica), on the S. of Mont Labaou, where there is a curious xiv. c. château, retaining its xvi. c. chimney-pieces, and a good deal of fine old furniture. The seignury belonged to the Comtes de Provence till 1257; now the château belongs to the family of Isoard. In one of the towers is an oratory containing the body of S. Séverin, given by Pius VII. to Cardinal d'Isoard.]

Continuing the line to Marseilles, we reach—

289 k. *Gardanne*.

[Hence there is a line to Brignolles by—

20 k. *Trets*, at the foot of the *Ouripo* or *Olympe*, which bears at its summit the tower, hermitage, and the chapel of S. Jean Baptiste, a great object of pilgrimage. The town, which was one of the first cities of Provence in x. c., retains its xiv. c. walls and dilapidated château. The church of xi. c. and xiv. c. has a high-altar and rétable by Veyrier, pupil of Puget.

37 k. *S. Maximin* (Hotels: *du Var*—a good country inn; *du Cheval Blanc*; *de France*). The huge church was founded by Charles II., Comte de Provence and King of Sicily, above an earlier crypt which was believed to contain the relics of several of the early Christian fugitives from Jerusalem—SS. Maximin, Isidore, Marcella, and of the Magdalen herself. The latter attracted immense pilgrimages through the middle-ages. Externally the church, begun at the end of the xiii. c. and only finished at the end of the xv. c., is bare and without character—an im-

mense rectangular building with an insignificant tower; but internally it is far the finest gothic building in Provence. It is a basilica of three lofty aisles ending in three apses. A poetical inscription gives the date of the vaulting (tectæ) at 1279, finished in 1480: the stained glass was destroyed in 1510. The columns have no capitals, but a simple moulding. The pulpit (1756) and stalls (1622) are very richly carved. A rétable on l., of 1520, is by Antoni Rozen. The high-altar, of jasper with bronze ornaments, was executed, 1683, by Joseph Léotaud, a pupil of Bernini. Above it a modern shrine of gilt bronze contains the famous relic of the church, the head of S. Mary Magdalen, beneath which, preserved in crystal tubes, are other relics of the Magdalen, of Lazarus and Martha, the whole surmounted by a baldacchino decorated with the arms of Charles II. and René d'Anjou. The treasury contains the vestments of S. Louis of Toulouse; in the crypt are a number of early Christian sarcophagi, one of which is shown as that of the Magdalen.

The main street, leading to the church, contains a remarkable xv. c. house, with a corbelled tourelle. In the Revolution the name of S. Maximin was changed to that of Marathon. Lucien Bonaparte, who was a 'garde magasin' at Marathon, married his first wife here.

'Le village de S. Marathon-Maximin n'est pas une magnifique résidence. Lucien-Brutus le sentit bientôt, et l'ennui l'aurait gagné si l'amour ne l'eût consolé. Lucien-Brutus devint amoureux, mais amoureux-fou, de mademoiselle Christine Boyer, dont le père était à la tête de la petite auberge de S. Marathon. Lucien était jeune alors, il avait à peine vingt-trois ans. Il aimait pour la première fois, et il aimait un ange de bonté, de vertu, et de candeur.'—*'Mémoires de la Duchesse d'Abrantes.'*

(It is necessary to sleep at S. Maximin to make with comfort the important excursion to *La-Sainte-Baume*, though it is possible to accomplish it in the day either from Marseilles or from Aix. The best time for this expedition is the late spring, when the flowers are in beauty. There are two ways of reaching S. Baume from S. Maximin. By the first, a carriage (from Hôtel du Var, 10 fr.) is taken to the nearer foot of the mountain, 3 k.



beyond the village of Nans, about  $1\frac{1}{2}$  hours' drive; by the other the carriage (20 fr.) is taken viâ *S. Zacharie* (where the church dates from 1033) to the hôtellerie (very rough road), nearly 4 hours' drive. The latter route only involves an ascent on foot of about  $\frac{1}{2}$  hr., and the former involves a rough ascent on foot of  $1\frac{1}{2}$  hrs.; yet good walkers will find the former route the best, and a saving of time.

At 2 k. on the road, we pass (l.) the *S. Pilon* (lou san piéroun), a xv. c. octagonal pillar, supporting a weather-beaten piece of sculpture representing the Magdalen being carried (according to the tradition) over the mountain by four angels.

A very early tradition of the Church narrates that a number of the immediate followers of Christ fled from Judea from the persecution which followed the Ascension, and landed on the coast of Provence to become the first missionaries of Gaul. Of these, Mary Salome and Mary Cleopas remained at Les Saintes-Maries in the Camargue, where they had landed (see ch. viii.); Lazarus went to carry the gospel to Marseilles, Restitutus to S. Restitut, Maximin to S. Maximin, Martha to Tarascon, but Mary Magdalen (whom ecclesiastical tradition identifies with Mary of Bethany) pushed on further, into the wild recesses of the Maritime Alps, where she spent many years in a desolate cavern, from which angels bore her through the air seven times a day to pray on the top of the neighbouring Mont Pilon. Dying in her cave, the Magdalen was taken for burial to S. Maximin, but meantime a number of hermits had gathered around the place which she had consecrated by her presence, and in the v. c. S. Cassien established a monastery there. The monks, however, were soon driven out by barbarian invaders, and, till the end of the XIII. c., the place was neglected and almost forgotten.

On April 6, 1295, Boniface VIII. granted to Count Charles II. of Provence the right to establish preaching friars at S. Maximin and La-Sainte-Baume, and exempted them from all jurisdiction except that of the Holy See. Since that time the pilgrims who have visited La-Sainte-Baume have included eight popes, eleven kings and four queens of France, kings of Spain and Bohemia, the emperor Charles IV., S. Louis of Toulouse, S. Bridget, S. Giovanni de Matha, and Petrarch! Louis XIV. was amongst the royal pilgrims, but afterwards found it highly inconvenient

and expensive when his granddaughters (*viâ* Mme. de Montespan) insisted upon following his example, before leaving the country for the marriages which had been arranged for them. The great seasons of pilgrimage at the present time are Pentecost, the Fête



LA-SAINTE-BAUME.

Dieu, and the feast of the Magdalen : at the latter as many as ten thousand persons frequently ascend to the cavern.

The road is a good one as far as Nans. Thence a rough country road allows us to drive 3 k. further, to the foot of the mountain. Hence, a very rough stony way must be ascended on foot (or donkeys may be ordered at Nans), through forest kept

down to brushwood by charcoal burners, who are the only persons to be met, except at a time of pilgrimage. By the way, at intervals, we pass ruined gothic shrines, erected under François I. by Jean Ferrier, archbishop of Arles. At the top of the first ascent we cross a comparative level, at the end of which, on r., is the *Hôtellerie*. Hence we ascend through real forest of great beauty, where an artist will find grand studies of old oaks embracing the rocks with their roots. Yews and hollies (rare in France) are abundant here, and in spring the ground is covered with violets, hepaticas, anemones, Solomon's-seal, lilies, narcissus, and a great variety of orchis. Most beautiful, at this time, is the effect of the dark purple precipices towering behind the fresh green.

'La tristesse ineffable et sublime de la Sainte-Baume.'—*Michelet*.

Close under the mountain wall, reached by a staircase, is the convent, now only inhabited by four monks, who are compelled to wear secular dress. Opposite, on the same little platform, is a small hospice for the pilgrims, where medals and photographs may be purchased (by way of payment to the guide). A monk, full of burning faith in the legends of the place, and smelling terribly of garlic, will probably show the holy cavern, which is of vast size, containing several altars. Water drips perpetually from the roof, and the cave is very wet, except in one spot, said to have been that—*le rocher de la Penitence*—where the saint remained for years in penitence and prayer. A statue of the Magdalen here was given by Mgr. Dupanloup. Before they are allowed to enter the holiest spot of all, pilgrims are still obliged to leave their shoes behind them.

'Antro, in cui visse incognito il rigore  
 Di lei, che tanto erro, pianse poi tanto,  
 Di lei, cui letto il suol, bevanda il pianto,  
 Cibo il cordoglio fu, gioja il dolore.  
 Antro dall'onda di quel sacro umore  
 Più, che da gli anni logorato e infranto ;  
 E voi silenzi alpestri, che d'un santo  
 Oror m'empiete, e mi parlate al core ;

In col guardo v'ascolto, e udir mi sembra  
 Ch'ella qui giunse, e qui ritenne il passo,  
 E qui poso le affittate membra;  
 E risponder vorria, ma'l pianto, ah! lasso!  
 M'abbonda sì, che'l volto mio rassembra  
 Per doglia un fiume, e per stupore un sasso.'

—*Filicaia.*

Louis XI. of France made a large chapel within the cave, and François I. placed his own statue and that of his mother at the entrance. Cave and convent were alike devastated by the Revolution, but they have since been restored through the energy of the Dominicans, especially of the Père Lacordaire.

From the little terrace in front of the cave there is a glorious view over the lower mountain heights beyond the Alpine forest. It is even finer from the summit of *S. Pilon*, the mountain above the convent, where it is only bounded on the N. by the mountains of S. Victor, and on the S. by the sea. The ruined chapel here was splendidly decorated with marble sculpture by Eleanore de Bergues, Princesse de Sedan, and her son Cardinal de Bouillon.)

43 k. *Tourves*. On the hill above is the ruined *Château de Valbelle*.

56 k. *Brignoles* (Hotel: *de la Cloche d'Or*), the second town of the Comtes de Provence, who had a winter palace here, now used as the sous-préfecture. In the church are preserved the mitre, dalmatic, and gloves of S. Louis d'Anjou, bishop of Toulouse, who was a native of Brignoles. A good house of the XII. c., with windows divided by columns, remains. The dried plums of Brignoles are celebrated. At *La Celle* are remains of a XII. c. priory.

The line joins the main line from Marseilles to Nice at—

79 k. *Carnoules*, see ch. ix.]

302 k. *S. Antoine*. The Mediterranean now comes in sight, and the railway proceeds along a high terrace with a most exquisite view of Marseilles, overlooked by the sanc-



tuary of Notre Dame de la Gardè, with the Château d'If, and the islands of Pomègue and Ratonneau in the distance.

305 k. *S. Marthe Tour Sainte*. The hills are covered with suburban villas. The *Tour Sainte* (of 1856) stands (l.), surmounted by a statue of the Virgin, on a hill near a stone on which S. Martha is said to have rested on her way to visit her sister Mary Magdalen, at the Sainte-Baume.

310 k. Marseilles.

## CHAPTER XI.

MARSEILLES TO THE ITALIAN FRONTIER, BY TOULON,  
(HYÈRES), CANNES, NICE, MONACO, MONTE-CARLO,  
AND MENTONE. IN VAR AND LES ALPES-MARI-  
TIMES.

ON this route it will be seen how all the life of Provence is on the seashore: the inland towns are asleep. The hillsides, after leaving Marseilles, seem powdered with bastides.

‘Les Provençaux sont fiers de leurs bastides; il n’y a vraiment pas de quoi: prétention et misère, c’est le caractère de toutes ces maisons. La bastide a de plus un agrément remarquable, c’est que, sous un ciel généralement pur et sur un sol désastreusement sec, elle est une éponge salpêtrée qui trouve moyen de ne jamais sécher.’—*George Sand*.

7 k. *La Pomme*. Close to this, at *S. Dominique*, is the bastide of *Casaulx*, which belonged to the family of Clary, of which one daughter married Bernadotte, the other Joseph Bonaparte.

12 k. *S. Menet*, the station for the sulphuric baths of *Camoins*. To the N.E. is seen *Mont Garlaban*, which serves as a thermometer to the district: when its top is lost in mist, it will rain, according to the distich:—

‘Garlaban a son capeou  
Pren ton sa, saouve ti leou.’

17 k. *Aubagne*. A fountain opposite the Hôtel de Ville commemorates the Abbé Barthélemy, author of the *Voyage du Jeune Anacharsis en Grèce*. The outline of the mountain background is very striking.

8 k. E. is the Cistercian *Abbey of S. Pons*, founded 1205, and ruined xv. c. 5 k. E. is the rich valley of *Gemenos*.

'O riant Gemenos, ô vallon fortuné,  
J'ai revu ton coteau de pampres couronné,  
Que la figue chérit, que l'olive idolâtre,  
Étendre en verts gradins son riche amphithéâtre.'  
*Délille, 'L'Homme des Champs.'*

[Hence there is a branch line to Aix. See ch. x.]

27 k. *Cassis*, the ancient Carsicis Portus. The town is 3 k. S.S.W. of the station, which is on a bare rocky height. As the train descends there is a view of the bay of—

37 k. *La Ciotat*. The town, 4 k. S.W. of the line (at the foot of the *Bec de l'Aigle*), which possesses the workshops of the Compagnie des Messageries Maritimes, was founded 1851. A little N. of the station is *Ceyreste*, the ancient Cezerista. The ramparts of the Roman settlement remain. Outside the village is a covered fountain, supposed to be of Greek origin.

44 k. *S. Cyr*.

4 k. N.E. of the town is the rock-built *Cadière*, with a double line of fortifications surrounding its ruined castle of xi. c. The church is xvi. c.

The line makes a great curve to the S. and passes a tunnel before descending into the bay of *Bandol*.

58 k. *Ollioules-S.-Nazaire*. *Ollioules*, 3½ k. N.E., is situated amid orange-groves at the foot of precipitous rocks. The views to the l. of the line are very striking.

62 k. *La Seyne* (Hotel : *de la Méditerranée*). A ship-building town.

From *La Seyne* a pleasant excursion may be made to the promontory of *Cap Sicié*.

‘Ce coin de terre est la pointe la plus méridionale que la France pousse dans la Méditerranée, car la presqu’île de Giens, auprès des îles d’Hyères, est un doigt presque détaché tandis que ceci est une main dont le large et solide poignet est bien soudé au corps de la Provence. Cette main s’est en partie fermée, abandonnant au flot qui la ronge deux de ses doigts mutilés, la presqu’île du cap Cépet, qui formait son index, et les îlots des Ambiers, qui sont les phalanges rompues de son petit doigt. Son pouce écourté ou rentré est la pointe de Balaguier, qui protège la petite rade de Toulon d’un côté, et de l’autre le golfe du Lazaret.’—*George Sand*, ‘*Tamaris*.’

The ancient town of *Six-Fours* is connected with the sea by a Roman paved way called *le chemin romain de S. Madeleine*. The church is xvii. c., over a crypt of x. c., which contains a font for baptism by immersion, and an early Christian altar. On the plateau called *Courtine*, above the town, is a fortress near a ruined xv. c. chapel. Hence we may visit the port of *Brusq*, where Gregory XI., going from Avignon to Rome, was kept three days by a tempest in 1376. From the port a path leads to *Cap Mouret*, and the furthest point of the promontory, which has a chapel of *Notre Dame de la Garde*. Then the *Plage des Sablettes*, the *Cap Cépet*, *Tamaris*, and *Fort Napoléon* may be visited.

67 k. *Toulon* (Hotels : *Grand ; Victoria ; du Louvre ; du Nord*). This fortress town, of little interest to travellers, and terribly unhealthy as a residence, is supposed to have been founded by Phenicians in ix. c. or x. c. A.C. It only began to have any maritime and military importance after the building of its great towers by Louis XII. and François I., and its real fortune only dates from the erection of its fortifications by Vauban under Louis XIV. The dockyard of



Toulon was destroyed in Nov. 1793, by Sir Sidney Smith, before the evacuation of the town by the British troops, vainly urged to protect the royalist inhabitants and refugees in the town from the republicans, who, when they entered the town, massacred more than 6,000 of those who were left to their mercy,<sup>1</sup> and decreed that the very name of Toulon should be blotted out, and the commune called in future Port-la-Montagne.

There are no buildings of interest in Toulon. The *Cathedral* dates from 1096, but has been completely modernised. There is a pleasant walk along the quay of the port, where, till 1873, numbers of galley-slaves used to be seen at work, as described by Victor Hugo.

On the S. of the great harbour, on the N. side of the 'presqu'île' of Cap Cépet, is the *Hospital of S. Mandrier* (steamer 35 c.), situated in pleasant gardens, on the site of a hermitage, where the bones of S. Mandrier, a Roman pro-consul, and of S. Flavien, bishop of Tauroentum, with those of other martyrs, have been discovered.

An omnibus starts every hour from the Place d'Italie for the *Fort Lamalgue* (built from plans of Vauban in 1674) and the *Cap Brun*, at the E. side of the little harbour.

'Les deux rades et le port qui ont fait la prospérité de Toulon sont parfaitement garantis des vents du large par le massif presque insulaire du cap Sicié et par le puissant môle qui forme au devant du golfe la péninsule du cap Sépet : jamais tempête n'y causa de naufrage ; la mer y est un lac. Aussi l'état s'est-il emparé de cette magnifique nappe d'eau pour en faire sa grande station navale de la Méditerranée. L'arsenal maritime, bâti à la fin du dix-septième siècle sur les plans de Vauban, et

<sup>1</sup> For terrible details of these horrors see Taine, *La Révolution*.

agrandi depuis cette époque par la plupart des gouvernements qui se sont succédés, est un prodigieux ensemble d'usines, de fabriques, de magasins de toute espèce, d'établissements divers, occupant une surface totale de 270 hectares et se développant le long des rivages de la baie sur une étendue de 8 kilomètres : la construction de tous ces édifices, jointe au creusement des bassins, des cales et des darses qui s'y ramifient, n'a pas coûté moins de 160 millions.'—*Élisée Reclus*.

The limestone mountain which overlooks Toulon on the N. is *Le Faron* or *Pharon*.

'Vu de face, c'est-à-dire, de la mer, le Pharon n'est qu'une masse grise absolument nue et aride, qui, par ses formes molles, ressemble à un gigantesque amas de cendres moutonnées par le vent; mais les lignes du profil exposé à l'E. sont splendides. Le Coudon est beau de toutes les faces.'—*George Sand*, '*Tamaris*.'

28 k. N. of Toulon, in a forest, is the ruined *Chartreuse de Montrieux*.

75 k. *La Garde*, a basaltic rock, is crowned by a ruined castle and church.

78 k. *La Pauline*.

[A branch line of 21 k. turns off r. to *Hyères*.

(*Omnibus*, 50 c. each person ; 25 c. each box.

Hotels: *Continental* ; *des Palmiers* ; *des Ambassadeurs* ; *du Parc* ; *des Étrangers* ; *des Hespérides* ; *des Îles d'Hyères*. Pleasanter and more popular with English residents is the *Grand Hôtel d'Albion*, in the pine wood of *Costabelle*, about 1 k. from *Hyères*.

*Carriages*. In the town, the course, 1 fr. 50 c. ; the hour, 2 fr. ; a tariff (very dear) for the immediate drives.

*Tramway to the sea*, 40 c. Five departures daily.

*Post-office*. Rue Nationale.)

*Hyères*, situated on the S. slope of a hill, crowned by remains of a castle and 5 k. from the sea, from which it is separated by a marshy plain, is a sheltered winter residence, though it is not entirely protected from the mistral. The great preacher Jean

Baptiste Massillon was born here in 1663. A terrace called *Place des Palmiers* has a pleasant view and some indifferent palm-trees. The old town on the hilltop retains ramparts and towers of x. c. and xi. c. The xii. c. church of *S. Paul* has been much altered.

‘Hyères est une assez jolie ville, grâce à des beaux hôtels et aux innombrables villas qui la peuplent et l’entourent. Sa situation



HYÈRES.

n’a rien de remarquable. La colline, trop petite, est trop près, la côte est trop plate et la mer trop loin.’—*George Sand*, ‘*Tamaris*.’

The most frequented walk is that to the *Hermitage*, a modern chapel on the hill to the S. Some of the drives are pleasant, but have no special interest. An excursion may be made by boat to the *Îles d’Hyères*; the *Stoechades* of the Greeks, now called *de Porquerolles* (the ancient *Proté*); *de Portcros* (Port creux, the ancient *Messé*); and *du Levant* or *du Titan* (the ancient *Hypea*), which is of interest to the mineralogist. The convents, by which these islands, as well as those of the *Lérins*, were once occupied, were all destroyed by the Saracens,

succeeded here by the Turks, who celebrated their feast of Ramazan on the islands in 1558.<sup>1</sup>

*La Chartreuse de la Verne* (40 k.), of which there are small XII. c. remains, may be visited between Hyères and (70 k.) S. Tropez.]

The picturesque rock-built town of *Solliès-Ville* is seen on the l. before reaching—

84 k. *Solliès-Pont*.

90 k. *Cuers*. A chapel of the Virgin occupies the site of the old castle on the hill above the town.

102 k. *Carnoules*, whence the line to (25 k.) Brignoles (see ch. x.) branches off on l.

121 k. *Le Luc*, the ancient Forum Voconii. The village, 2½ k. W. of the station, has a ruined church, partly XIII. c., and an octagonal tower of 1517.

The neighbouring village of *Cannet* retains its mediaeval walls, and beyond this, in a valley, is the interesting Cistercian monastery of *Thoronet*, founded XII. c. by Raymond Béranger, Comte de Provence. The church, cloister, and chapter house are well preserved. The hexagonal lavoir, lighted by five windows and with two double portals, will attract the attention of architects.

[A diligence runs from Le Luc by (18½ k.) *La-Garde-Freinet* (formerly Château-Fraxinet), the name of which commemorates Fraxinet, the great stronghold of the Moors in Provence, from which they were driven out in 973. Nothing, except a cistern, remains of the fortress. At 40 k. the road reaches S. *Tropez* (Hotel: *Continental*), occupying the site of the ancient Heraclea Caccabaria, in a very beautiful position, likely in time to become a favourite winter resort. The neighbouring hilly district of *Les Maures*, which Élie de Beaumont calls 'La Provence de la Provence,' recalls its Saracenic occupation. The ruined castle of *Grimaud* was built in the xv. c. for the Grimaldi.]

<sup>1</sup> Nostrodamus, *Histoire de Provence*.



130 k. *Vidauban*. The neighbouring *Vallée de l'Argens* is pretty.

136 k. *Les Arcs*.

[From *Les Arcs* there is branch on l. to (13 k.) *Draguignan* (Hotels: *Bertin*; *de France*), the capital of the Département du Var, a town founded in v. c., but wholly without interest.]

158 k. *Fréjus* (Hotels: *du Midi*; *de la Plage*). This very ancient town, on the site of the capital of the Oxybiens, received the name of Forum Julii from Julius Caesar, who finished a port and built a lighthouse, aqueduct, and amphitheatre here. He also installed here a colony of soldiers of the 8th legion, calling the place *Colonia Octavianorum*, and he sent hither, after the battle of Actium, the 200 galleys taken from Anthony. The surname of *Classica*, which Pliny applies to *Fréjus*, proves that it was regarded as a maritime arsenal. Often pillaged and burnt, it had still maritime importance under Henri II., but since that time the sea has retired from the town, and the port is destroyed.

The station is close to the remains of the *Porte des Gaules*. The chief remnant of antiquity is the amphitheatre, —*Les Arènes*,—passed just before reaching the station, outside the town on the W.: only the lower walls exist. The building was elliptic, with four principal entrances. The ancient ramparts, enclosing a space five times the size of the present town, can still be traced. To the S.E. a projecting wall, which enclosed the ancient port, has an octagonal tower with a stone pyramid, known as *La Lanterne d'Auguste*. Near the S.E. angle of the xvi. c. ramparts, passed to the l. of the railway, is the *Porte Dorée*, a much restored narrow arch, built of small stones inter-

sected by lines of brick. Near this are remains of *Baths*. On the N. are some vestiges of the *Porte de Rome*, near which the remains of the aqueduct join the ramparts. On the N. also of the ancient town are the remains of the *Theatre*: the foundation walls of the *scena* and some seats are visible. The canal of the *Aqueduct* was carried on 87 arches, of which a considerable number exist, and are seen to the l. of the line after leaving the town. None of the ruins of Fréjus are picturesque, and they are therefore more interesting to an archeologist than an artist.

The *Cathedral of S. Étienne* is of XI. c. or XII. c., but much restored. Its tower, as well as the episcopal palace, contains fragments from Roman buildings: it is square at the base and octagonal above, with a heavy spire. The octagonal *Baptistery*, separated from the church by a porch, is adorned with eight granite columns, bearing corinthian capitals of white marble. There is good XVI. c. woodwork in the choir. On the N. is a mutilated XIII. c. cloister with a curious and unique wooden roof.

‘Cette ville devient plus déserte chaque jour, et les communes voisines ont perdu, depuis un demi-siècle, neuf dixièmes de leur population.’—*Fauchet*.

162 k. *S. Raphael* (Hotels: *des Bains*; *Beau Rivage*; *Grand*; *de France*. In woods, 5 k. distant, is the *Hôtel Valescure*—very good). This is a beautiless little place, but is rising in repute as a winter residence. There are pleasant walks into the woods of the Esterel. From the top of *Mont Vinaigre* there is a wide view. It was at *S. Raphael* that Napoléon I. embarked for Elba.

170 k. *Agay*, whence (2 hours' walk) the *Grotte de la*

*S. Baume* may be visited (on the *Cap Roux*, near an orange garden), where *S. Honorat* lived as a hermit before founding the abbey of the *Lérins*. On the S. side of the cape is another cave, which was inhabited by *S. Eucher*, afterwards Archbishop of Lyons. The line now skirts the Esterel by tunnels and gorges, emerging above *Théoule* and the *Château de la Napoule*, and crossing the plain of the *Siagne* to—

194 k. *Cannes*.

Hotels: Centre, *Splendide*;—Eastern Bay, *Grand*—dear; Central—good and reasonable; *Gonnet*; *Gray et d'Albion*; *Suisse*—pension; *Victoria*; *Mont-Fleuri*; *Windsor*; *Beau Séjour*; *Californie*; *des Anglais*; *de Provence*; *du Prince de Galles*—dear; *Richmont*; *Paradis*; *de la Grande Bretagne*; *Pension de la Madeleine*;—Western Bay, *Continental*—lively; *Beau Site*—good situation; *Le Pavillon*; *Bellevue*; *des Princes*.

*Carriages* (1 horse), the course, 1 fr. 50 c. and 2 fr.; the hour, 2 fr. 50 c. and 3 fr.; 2 horses, the course, 2 fr. and 3 fr.; the hour, 3 fr. 50 c. and 4 fr. The charge for excursions is very dear. To Esterel, *Théoule*, *Auribeau*, *Grasse*, the *Cap d'Antibes*, with 1 horse, 18 fr.; with 2 horses and 4 persons, 22 fr., each extra person 2 fr. To *Cannet*, 5 fr. and 7 fr. To *Vallauris*, *Napoule*, *Pégomas*, *Mouans*, *La Roquette*, *Mougins*, *Antibes*, 12 fr. and 16 fr., with power of staying one hour only.

*Omnibus* runs from one end of *Cannes* to the other; also to *Grasse* (1 fr. 50 c.), bureau, *Rue d'Antibes*: to *Vallauris* (1 fr.), *Pégomas* (75 c.), *Golfe Juan* and *Antibes* (50 c.), *La Napoule* (80 c.).

Till 1860, *Cannes* was little more than an old-world fishing village, with one or two small hotels and villas for winter visitors in its neighbourhood. Since then, it has annually increased to such a degree, that its buildings now face the sea for a distance of more than 7 k., and its suburbs stretch inland so as to embrace the neighbouring village of (3 k.) *Cannet*. With the growth of the place its charm

of beauty has naturally become less, and Cannes has turned into a fashionable place, chiefly dependent upon society for its recommendations. It is also very expensive, but the beautiful view of the Esterel range, which has one of the most picturesque outlines in Europe, is an attraction which cannot be destroyed. The best views are from the *Croix des Gardes* on the W. or from the Promenade de la Californie



FROM MAISON S. FRANÇOIS, CANNES.

on the E. of Cannes. The old town itself occupies a little promontory between the two bays, its houses rising up the side of a low hill called *Mont Chevalier*, crowned by a tower built by an abbot of Lérins in 1070, and which, for safety, could only be entered on the first floor by a movable ladder. On the hill are also some ruined walls on the site of the Roman *Castrum Massilinum* and near the church of *S. Anne*, formerly the castle chapel, and the xvii. c. church of *Notre*



*Dame de l'Espérance.* In the western bay are the principal *English Church* and the *Villa Éléanore*, built in 1834 by the first Lord Brougham (who is buried in the cemetery), and named from his daughter, who died young. The *Villa Nevada* recalls the death of Leopold, Duke of Albany, March 28, 1884. At Cannet is the Villa Sardou, where Mlle. Rachel died in 1858. Bertold Auerbach also died at Cannes, Feb. 8, 1882.

The greatest injury which has been done to Cannes of



BOCCA WOOD, CANNES.

late years has been the destruction of the greater part of its magnificent Bocca Wood, a glorious grove of gigantic umbrella pines extending for some distance along the shore towards the W., a paradise of artists, and the admiration of Europe. The prettiest spot now remaining in the immediate neighbourhood is the hillock of *S. Cassien* in the plain of the Siagne, where an abbot of Lérins built a monastery in the VII. c., on the site of a temple and in a grove dedicated to Venus, called *Ara Luci*, which has left a name to the village of Arluc. A XIV. c. hermitage now stands amid the noble old pine trees. Another picturesque spot (to be

reached on foot) is the *Rochers des Bilhères*, in the pine-forest behind the Croix des Gardes, which surmounts a hill to the W. of the town (above the Hôtel Bellevue), the lower slopes of which are covered with the precious cassia plant, bearing flowers which sell for from 6 fr. to 20 fr. a kilo.

The pleasantest excursion by carriage from Cannes is that to (9 k.) *Napoule*, on the site of the ancient Epulia, with remains of a xiv. c. castle of the Comtes de Villeneuve (spoilt by a modern villa). Above is the hill of *S. Peyré*, with a ruined castle and chapel. Beyond (11 k. from Cannes), is *Théoule*, a picturesque little harbour, to which steamers (3 fr. with return) ply daily from Cannes.

Another drive on the W. of Cannes is that to (12 k.) *Auribeau*. Its church contains a xv. c. reliquary of S. Honorat, and it is prettily situated above the gorge of the Siagne, but a Provençal distich says—

‘Auribeau sur Siagne  
Bourdol dans les bois,  
Gourdon sur le Loup,  
Sont trois mauvais endroits.’

Before reaching Auribeau, pedestrians may follow a path along the bank of the Siagne to the foot of the hill which is crowned by the village. There is a pleasant route to Grasse from Auribeau by the chapel of *Notre Dame de Valcluse*.

Beyond the northern suburb of Cannet, where a machicolated tower is known as *La Tour du Brigand*, an excursion of 14 k. may be made to the hill of *Mougins*, a once fortified village, retaining one of its gateways, and to the Chapel of *Notre Dame de Vie*, approached by an avenue of cypresses. The pleasant villa of *Castellaras* occupies the site of an ancient oppidum, and 2 k. beyond it is the pretty village of *Valbonne*. 4 k. further we may find the sanctuary of *Notre Dame de Villebrun*.

On the E. side of the town, a pleasant walk or drive by the *Promenade de la Californie* and the *Chapelle S. Antoine* (whence there is a beautiful mountain view), or a drive from the road to the Golfe Juan, leads to (8 k.) *Vallauris* (Vallis Aurea), where the

admirable pottery-works of M. Clément Massier are worth visiting. The place has been famous for its pottery even from Roman times. In the XI. c., Vallauris became the property of the monastery of the Lérins, and its abbots built a palace here, to which they retired in the great heat; the chapel remains, now used as an oil-mill. Vallauris may also be reached by omnibus (1 fr.) either from Cannes or from the station of the Golfe-Juan.

But the excursion most worth making (in calm weather) is that to the *Îles des Lérins*, to which steamers run several times daily from Cannes (1 fr. to S. Marguerite, with return: 1 fr. 50 c. to S. Honorat, with return).

It is a passage of 20 min. to the *Île S. Marguerite*, the ancient Lero, which once contained a temple to the demi-god Lero, demolished by S. Honorat. The monks of S. Honorat gave up the island in 1617 to the Duc de Chevreuse, who ceded it in the following year to the Duc de Guise, by whom it was given to Jean de Bellon, one of his followers. Afterwards Richelieu took possession of it in the name of the king, and built a fortress, which was scarcely finished before it was taken by the Spaniards, who were only expelled after a two years' siege. This fortress became (Dec. 20, 1873) the prison of Marshal Bazaine, sentenced for twenty years, though he contrived to escape Aug. 10, 1874. The castle is shown with an order, but contains nothing of interest except the prison occupied by the 'man with the iron mask' under Louis XIV.

'Le mur est d'une solidité extraordinaire, ayant près de douze pieds d'épaisseur; en outre trois fortes grillés de fer garnissent la fenêtre et rendent impossible toute communication avec l'extérieur. Deux portes couvertes de clous et d'énormes barres de fer ne s'ouvriraient que devant le gouverneur du château, et ce n'était que par les appartemens de cet officier que l'on pouvait parvenir à la chambre du prisonnier. Un corridor étroit, muré à chaque extrémité, servait de promenade: au fond on avait accommodé un petit autel où quelquefois un prêtre lui disait la messe. À côté de sa cellule, une autre renfermait son domestique qui, plus heureux que lui, mourût dans l'île après quelques années de détention.'—*Prosper Mérimée*.

Local legend describes S. Marguerite as having been the sister

of S. Honorat. She lived in the same island in a separate monastic house, but every month she visited her brother. This was contrary to his severe monastic ideal, and he prayed that the sea might divide them. That night the islands were separated by a gulf; but to console his sister S. Honorat promised that he would visit her whenever the cherry-trees blossomed. Then S. Marguerite prayed in her turn, and in answer to her prayer the cherry-trees blossomed every month, and, twelve times a year, the short-sighted S. Honorat was compelled, by his own act, to cross the sea to visit her. In local shrines, S. Marguerite is seen trampling upon the serpents with which the Lérins abounded.

The *Île S. Honorat* (40 min.) originally known as Lerina or Planasia, is as picturesquely beautiful as it is curious. Its un-failing spring attracted the Greek colony which gave the name of their pirate chief, Leros, to the group. In spite of its having been captured so often by Saracens, Genoese, Spaniards, and Austrians, it was the centre of monastic life in the south of France through the middle-ages, and was at one time inhabited by 3,700 monks. It continues to be a very touching and interesting spot. Amongst its remains are those of a church dedicated to S. *Honorat*, and a small *Arch* raised to his honour; and of the *Convent of S. Honorat* and its simple cloister, with circular vaulting. The *Castle* is said to have been founded by Abbot Aldebert II. in 1073: it contains a very curious and interesting cloistered court, with two storeys of arches, and, on the first floor, the *Chapelle S. Croix*. Remains may be seen of several of the seven other chapels which existed on the island. The *Chapelle de la S. Trinité*, at the E. point, has a rude nave of two bays, and a triapsal choir with a small dome. The *Chapelle S. Sauveur*, on the N. (modernised), is octagonal in plan, with a niche on each side internally. On the S. are small remains of the *Chapelle S. Porchaire*.

‘The sea took the place of the desert, but the type of monastic life which the solitaries had found in Egypt was faithfully preserved. The Abbot of Lérins was simply the chief of some thousands of religious devotees, scattered over the island in solitary cells, and linked together by the common ties of obedience and prayer. By a curious concurrence of events, the coenobitic



life of Lérins, so utterly unlike the later monasticism of the Benedictines, was long preserved in a remote corner of Christendom. Patrick, the most famous of its scholars, transmitted its type of monasticism to the Celtic Church which he founded in Ireland, and the vast numbers, the asceticism, the loose organisation of such abbeys as those of Bangor or Armagh, preserved to the twelfth century the essential characteristics of Lérins. Nor is this all its historical importance. What Iona is to the ecclesiastical history of Northern England, what Fulda and Monte Cassino are to the ecclesiastical history of Germany and Southern Italy, that this abbey of S. Honorat became to the Church of Southern Gaul. For nearly two centuries, and those centuries of momentous change, when the wreck of the Roman Empire threatened civilisation and Christianity with ruin like its own, the civilisation and Christianity of the great district between the Loire, the Alps, and the Pyrenees rested mainly on the abbey of Lérins. Sheltered by its insular position from the ravages of the barbaric invaders who poured down on the Rhône and the Garonne, it exercised over Provence and Aquitaine a supremacy such as Iona, till the Synod of Whitby, exercised over Northumbria. All the more illustrious sees of Southern Gaul were filled by prelates who had been reared at Lérins: to Arles, for instance, it gave in succession Hilary, Caesarius, and Virgilius. The voice of the Church was found in that of its doctors; the famous rule of Faith, 'quod ubique, quod semper, quod ab omnibus,' is the rule of Vincent of Lérins; its monk Salvian painted the agony of the dying Empire in his book on the government of God; the long fight of semi-Pelagianism against the sterner doctrines of Augustin was chiefly waged within its bounds. . . .

'Little remains to illustrate the earlier and more famous period of the monastic history of Lérins, which extends to the massacre of its monks by Saracen pirates at the opening of the eighth century. A well in the centre of the island and a palm-tree beside the church are linked to the traditional history of the founders of the abbey. Worked into the later buildings we find marbles and sculptures which may have been brought from the mainland, as at Torcello, by fugitives who had escaped the barbaric storm. A bas-relief of Christ and the apostles, which is

now inserted over the west gate of the church, and a column of red marble which stands beside it, belong probably to the earliest days of the settlement at Lérins. In the little chapels scattered over the island fragments of early sarcophagi, inscriptions, and sculpture have been industriously collected and preserved. But the chapels themselves are far more interesting than their contents. Of the seven which originally lined the shore, two or three only now remain uninjured; in these the building itself is either square or octagonal, pierced with a single rough romanesque window, and of diminutive size. The walls and vaulting are alike of rough stonework. The chapels served till the Revolution as seven stations which were visited by the pilgrims to the island, but we can hardly doubt that in these, as in the seven chapels at Glendalough, we see relics of the earlier coenobitic establishment.

‘The cloister of the abbey is certainly of a date later than the massacre of the monks, which took place, according to tradition, in the little square of wild greensward which lies within it; but the roughness of its masonry, the plain barrel roof, and the rude manner in which the low, gloomy vaulting is carried round its angles, are of the same character as in the usual tenth-century buildings of Southern Gaul. With the exception of the masonry of the side walls there is nothing in the existing remains of the abbey church itself earlier than its reconstruction at the close of the eleventh century. The building has been so utterly wrecked that little architectural detail is left; but the broad nave, with its narrow side aisles, the absence, as in the Aquitanian churches, of triforium and clerestory, and the shortness of the choir space, give their own individual mark to S. Honorat. Of the monastic buildings connected with the church only a few rooms remain, and these are destitute of any features of interest. They are at present used as an orphanage by the Franciscans, whom the Bishop of Fréjus, by whom the island was purchased, has settled there as an agricultural colony.

‘The appearance of the Moslem pirates at once robbed S. Honorat of its old security, and the cessation of their attacks was followed by a new danger from the Genoese and Calabrians who infested the coast in the fourteenth century. The isle was alternately occupied by French and Spaniards in the war between Francis and Charles V.; it passed under the rule of commendatory

abbots, and in 1789, when it was finally secularised, the four thousand monks of its earlier history had shrunk to four. Perhaps the most curious of all the buildings of Lérins is that which took its rise in the insecurity of its mediaeval existence. The castle of Lérins, which lies on the shore to the S. of the church, is at once a castle and an abbey. Like many of the great monasteries of the East, its first object was to give security to its inmates against the marauders who surrounded them. Externally its appearance is purely military; the great tower rises from its trench deep cut in the rock, a portcullis pro-



S. HONORAT, ÎLES DES LÉRINS.

TECTS the gate, the walls are pierced with loopholes and crowned with battlements. But within, the arrangements, so far as it is possible to trace them in the present ruinous state of the building, seem to have been purely monastic. The interior of the tower is occupied by a double-arched cloister, with arcades of exquisite first-pointed work, through which one looks down into the little court below. The visitor passes from this into the ruins of the abbot's chapel, to which the relics were transferred for security from the church of S. Honorat, and which was surrounded by the cells, the refectory, and the domestic buildings of the monks. The erection of the castle is dated in the twelfth century, and

from this time we may consider the older abbey buildings around the church to have been deserted and left to ruin; but we can hardly grumble at a transfer which has given us so curious a combination of military and monastic architecture in the castle itself.'—*J. R. Green, 'Stray Studies.'*

'Who that enjoyed any spark of imagination, and any perception of beauty, but must love the remembrance of such men as that monk of the golden Isles, who lived towards the end of the fourteenth century in the monastery of S. Honorat, whence in the spring and autumn he used to go alone into one of the delicious islands off Hyères, where was a little hermitage amidst the leafy houses of birds, where he used to observe their beautiful plumage, and the different little animals which resorted there, that he might paint them in the margins of illuminated missals? René of Anjou possessed his book of hours. Yoland of Arragon loved his company. "Tant sage, beau, et prudens il estoit," says C. Nostradamus.'—*Kenelm Digby, 'Broadstone of Honour: Tancredus.'*

Those who stay long at Cannes will find much to interest them in the patois and its characteristics and circumvolutions. As an ordinary instance of the latter, if you ask an olive grower whether his crop is good, he will usually say, 'Dire qu'il n'y en a pas, il y a; mais dire qu'il y en a, il n'y en a pas.' A number of Arabic words are still in use, such as *aujubis* (algibiz), sweet grape; *jasmin* (yâsmyn), *limoun* (leymoun), *endibo* (endib), salata (salatha), *serfouil* (serfoull), and trescalan or S. John's Wort. Many of the names of the mountains are still Arabic.

'Among the peasantry figures of speech are in great request. "Farewell" is not said: you only bow and say "À l'avantage," meaning the pleasure of meeting again. The devil is called



"Janicot;" the pig is "*lou noble veste de sedo*," the gentleman in black silk! Here, as in Italian, diminutives abound. *Bastide* is a house; but a cottage is a *bastidoun*; and the Alpe turns to *Amphiho* and *Apmhihoun*. A little square is a *pati*; a young child is a *pinchenèto*; while a word like "valley," *lou van*, or *lou valado*, can be modified into *valengo*, *valergo* (pl. *valergues*), *valetto*, *valoun*, and *valat*. There is a curious habit of beginning or ending the sentences with a word that is irrelevant, or is at least as irrelevant as a word must be allowed to be that has a dozen different meanings—or none. "*Te*" (tiens!) probably opens the phrase; *Ve* (voyez-vous) occurs somewhere in the argument, and *allons!* possibly brings the whole to a close.'—*Author of 'Vera,' 'The Maritime Alps.'*

[A branch line leads in 20 min. from Cannes, by (12 k.) *Mouans-Sartoux*, with its fine umbrella pines, to the base of the hill occupied by (20 k.) Grasse (Hotel: *Grand*—good.<sup>1</sup>) But most visitors will drive. The distance by road is 17 k.

Grasse, in the XII. c., was a little republic, and formed an alliance offensive and defensive with Pisa, but it suffered from the quarrels of Guelfs and Gibellins as represented by the families of Esclapon and Sicard, and on the triumph of the Guelf-faction in 1198, abandoned the alliance of Pisa for that of Genoa. The republic came to an end in 1226.

The town contains few antiquities. A tower, which some consider to be of Roman origin, joins the hôtel de ville—formerly the bishop's palace. Near it is the *Cathedral*, a simple building of XII. c. and XIII. c., containing a picture (the Washing of the Feet) by *Fragonard*, who was a native of Grasse. The XI. c. polygonal domed chapel of *S. Hilaire* is used as a powder magazine. In the chapel of the *Hospital* are three pictures by *Rubens*. Visitors are chiefly attracted by the perfumeries, to supply which the country round the town is laid out in gardens. On an average the district yields annually:—

<sup>1</sup> English children were seized with scarlet fever whilst here in the winter of 1888-89, and a bill of 1,500 fr. was brought to the parents for injury done to the hotel, though all communication had been cut off by *walling-up* the approach to the rooms where the illness was.

Orange blossoms . . . . .	1,475,000 lbs.
Rose . . . . .	530,000
Jasmine . . . . .	100,000
Violet . . . . .	75,000
Cassia . . . . .	45,000
Geranium leaves . . . . .	30,000
Tuberose blossoms . . . . .	24,000
Jonquil . . . . .	5,000

Not to mention lavender, which yields a produce of £30 an acre.

It requires 10,000 rose plants or 80,000 jasmine plants to cover an acre. The violets are incapable of bearing the terrible sun, so are planted in the shade of walls, or close under the lemon or orange trees.

‘ Les pentes qui s’inclinent vers la mer de Nice de manière à recevoir en plein les rayons bienfaisants du midi sont beaucoup plus semblables aux versants septentrionaux de la Maurétanie qu’elles ne le sont aux contrées situées immédiatement au nord et séparées seulement par l’épaisseur d’une chaîne de montagnes. Aussi des géologues et des naturalistes, frappés par la grande analogie des climats, des roches, de la faune et de la flore, ont-ils pu dire avec raison que le littoral du sud de la Provence et celui du nord de l’Atlas constituent, avec les côtes méridionales de l’Espagne, une partie du monde distincte, intermédiaire entre l’Europe et l’Afrique.’—*Élisée Reclus*.

Those who spend a winter at Cannes often in the spring make a three days’ excursion in the mountain villages behind Grasse, and may sleep either at (15 k.) S. Césaire or (12 k. from Grasse) S. Vallier de *Thyeis* (the ancient *Castrum Valerii*), a bleak village drearily situated near the source of the Siagne. If we follow the gorge of the river from hence, at about 5 k. from S. Vallier, we shall reach the spot where it flows beneath the very curious natural arch called *Pont-à-Dieu*.

S. Césaire is a curious old town, with a simple church of XIII. c., above a ravine of great picturesqueness, which contains the caverned fountain called *La Foux*, whence the water issues which supplies Cannes and Vallauris. 5 k. distant to the W. is the well-preserved tunnel *de Roquetaillade*, formed by the Romans for the canal of Fréjus.

Another excursion from Grasse, which may also be made in the day from Cannes, is that to the *Saut de Loup*, a waterfall in the fine rift of the mountains, which is so great a feature in the views from Cannes, and which is known as the *Gorge de Courmes* or



LE PONT À DIEU.

*de S. Arnoux.* The rocks here rise abruptly to 400 mètr. above the torrent. In the upper part of the gorge are the village of *Gourdon*, with the *Fontaine Sainte*, rising in a cave, and the rock-built *Hermitage of S. Arnoux*. The scenery is very wild and striking.

One of the most striking gorges in the hills, which may be

reached from Grasse, is the *Cluse de S. Auban*, 52 k. N. in the direction of Puget-Théniers.

For the interesting road from Grasse to (121 k.) Digne see ch. x.]

200 k. *Golfe-Juan*. The station for Vallauris (omnibus, 1 fr.), see p. 521. Here Napoléon I. landed from Elba.

‘Un trait remarquable de mobilité, c’est le royalisme décroissant, puis l’impérialisme croissant des journaux serviles, dans les vingt jours que l’aigle impériale emploie à voler du golfe Juan aux tours de Notre Dame. En mettant le pied sur



ANTIBES.

la plage provençale, Napoléon est le *Corse aventurier*; le lendemain, ce n'est plus que *l'usurpateur*; à Grenoble, l'illustre voyageur redevient *Bonaparte*; parvenu à Lyon, il a reconquis le titre de *Général Bonaparte*; à Châlons, reparaît le prénom glorieux de *Napoléon*; à Auxerre *l'Empereur* est réintégré dans toute sa dignité souveraine; à Fontainebleau, l'on reçoit avec enthousiasme, *le grand homme, le sauveur, l'étoile de la France*; enfin, le 21 Mars au matin, la feuille officielle annonce que, la veille, *sa majesté impériale et royale a fait son entrée dans sa capitale* au bruit des acclamations unanimes.—*Touchard Lefosse, 'Hist. de Paris.'*

[An excursion may be taken to (3 k.) *Biot*, where a peculiar kind of pottery is made. The village was founded in the XIII. c.



by the Genoese, who called it Buzoto, and it belonged to the Templars, and afterwards to the Knights of Malta. The church, re-consecrated in 1472, is of Templar origin.]

205 k. *Antibes* (Hotel: *des Aigles d'Or*), the ancient Antipolis, the sentinel which protected the Phoecean colonies against the incursions of the Ligurians. Its bishopric was transferred to Grasse in 1243. Some very small remains have been discovered of a Roman theatre, aqueduct, and of the cemetery, where, amongst other relics, was found a stone with the touching inscription, 'D. M. pueri Septentrionis. An. xii. qui Antipoli in theatro biduo saltavit, et placuit.' The town, with its bastions and lofty orange-coloured towers, juts out most picturesquely into the sea, and has a background of marvellous beauty in the long range of peaks of the Maritime Alps, always white with snow in winter.

The delightful promontory of the *Cap d'Antibes* (Hotel: *Bellevue*—a pleasant winter residence and pension), with its lighthouse and Chapelle de la Garde, has enchanting views towards the snow mountains and Nice on E., and, across the bay of Cannes with its islands, to the purple chain of l'Esterel on W. Near the rocky point called *Plan de l'Islette* is the singular insulated tomb of Mr. Close.

213 k. *Vence-Cagnes*. The village of *Cagnes* (2 k. l.) occupies a hill crowned by a picturesque castle of the Grimaldi, occupying the site of a temple of Venus, and containing curious old rooms with frescoed ceilings, one of them representing the Fall of Phaeton, and attributed to Carlone.

[Far the best excursions in the neighbourhood of Cannes are those which are usually made from the station of *Cagnes*. *Vence* (10 k.), occupying the site of Ventium, the capital of the Nerusii, is a hill-set town, which belonged in the middle-ages to the great

family of Villeneuve. It had a bishopric, founded *c.* 374 (afterwards united to Fréjus), frequently illustrious from its prelates, including S. Andin, S. Eusèbe, S. Véran, S. Lambert, Pope Paul III., the learned Guillaume le Blanc, Pierre de Vair, Godeau, and Surian. The former *Cathedral*, founded in iv. c., on the site of a temple, and much enlarged in x. c., xii. c., and xv. c., has a number of ancient inscriptions built into the walls. The lectern, stalls, and organ are late xv. c. In the chapel of



CAGNES.

S. Véran the altar is said to be the tomb of the saint. The tomb of S. Lambert, with a xii. c. inscription, is in the chapel dedicated to him. The epitaph of Bishop Godeau (1672) commemorates the favourite of Richelieu, who obtained his good graces by dedicating to him a paraphrase of the Psalms, which begins with the words, '*Benedicite omnia opera domini*,' on receiving which the powerful cardinal said, 'Monsieur l'abbé, vous me donnez *Benedicite*, et moi je vous donne *Grasse*.' The Pope afterwards allowed Godeau to hold the bishopric of

Vence with that of Grasse. 'Il était fort enclin à l'amour,' says Tallemant des Réaux, 'et comme it était naturellement volage, il a aimé en plusieurs lieux.'

On the *Terrasse de S. Martin* (1 k.) are ruins of a house of the Templars.

It is most well worth while to proceed 6 k. beyond Vence by a mountain road to the village of *S. Jeannet*, most picturesquely situated at the foot of a huge precipice of red and grey rock—'le



CARROS.

baou rouge'—which is a principal feature in views from the drives near Nice. The women here have a great reputation for sorcery, and high on the mountain is a huge old nut-tree, where the witches are believed to hold their sabbat. Hence, a terraced road, high above the ravine occupied by the usually dry bed of the Var, with views perfectly sublime in their beauty, leads along the edge of the hills to (14 k.) *Carros* (Carrozza), a most striking little fortified mountain town, with a castle; and to (16 k.) *Le Broc*, with a church of 1563 and xv. c. hospital, overlooking the confluence of the Var and Esteron. There are few finer scenes than

those near the two last-named villages, but the snow on the mountains contrasting with the deep purple ravines, makes them far more striking in spring than summer. Taking another direction from Vence, we may visit (5 k.) *S. Pol*, an old fortified village, containing many ancient houses of architectural interest, and possessing a glorious view over mountains and sea. In the *Maison Suraire* are a splendid chimney-piece and curious staircase. This excursion, also, is well worth while to an artist.

A very interesting mountain road leads from Vence to (23 k.) Grasse, by (6 k.) *Tourette*, which retains its old walls and the



S. POL.

three towers whence it derived its name, and (13 k.) *Le Bar* (near the Gorge de S. Amoux), with an old castle, and a church with a Roman inscription built into its tower and, in its sacristy, a x. c. tabernacle with a representation of the Dance of Death. At 12 k. from Vence pedestrians may turn aside l. by the hamlet of *Courmette-Vieille*, and (leaving on l. the village of *Courmes*, which has a tomb of one of the famous Cormis family in its church) ascend to (14 k. from the main road) the singular mountain town of *Coursegoules*, which has its little square and hôtel de ville. Hence the *Cheiron* (1,778 mètr.) may be ascended in 3 hrs. There is a magnificent view from the summit.]



219 k. *Le Var*, a station near the long bridge over the wide, usually dry bed of the Var, which formerly was the boundary between France and Italy. The river, which gives its name to a Department, rushing and rapid in its upper course, becomes, as it nears the sea, either an impetuous flood, which numerous dykes can scarcely keep in check, or a mere thread of water winding through an immense bed of stones. Hence, passing the fishing suburbs of *S. Hélène*, *Magnan*, and *S. Philippe*, we soon reach—

225 k. *Nice* (Nizza).

Hotels: *des Anglais*—at the corner of the Jardin Public; *du Luxembourg*; *de la Méditerranée*; *Westminster*; *Continental*—on the Promenade des Anglais; *d'Élysée*; *des Palmiers*; *du Louvre*; *Paradis*; *des Îles Britanniques*—on the West; *des Empereurs*; *Millet*; *de Nice*—on the East; *Grand*; *de Cimies*.

Pensions: *Royale*, 4 Avenue Delphine; *Internationale*, 2 Petite Rue S. Étienne; *des Palmiers*, 30 Boulevard Longchamp; *Millet*, 2 Rue S. Étienne.

‘Dans les hôtels, on distingue deux catégories: le *client* et le *passant*. Pour le premier, on a tous les égards possibles, mais il s'en faut de tout que le second jouisse de la même considération. On regarde les voyageurs qui ne séjournent pas, comme un passage de caillies qu'il s'agit de plumer, et les hôteliers ne s'en font pas faute.’—*C. Brainne*.

*Carriages*: with one horse and two places, the course, 75 c. by day, 1 fr. 25 c. by night; the hour, 2 fr. and 2 fr. 50 c. With one horse and four places, the course, 1 fr. by day, 1 fr. 80 c. by night; the hour, 2 fr. 50 c. and 3 fr. With two horses and four places, the course, 1 fr. 50 c. by day, 2 fr. by night; the hour, 3 fr. and 3 fr. 50 c. The limits of a course are those of the town itself.

*Post Office*, 20 Rue S. François-de-Paule.

*Telegraph*, 14 Rue du Pont Neuf.

Nice, the capital of the Département des Alpes-Maritimes, is much frequented as a sunny winter residence, but is ravaged in spring by violent mistral, which fills the air with a whirlwind of dust. It consists of the union of several towns—the ‘*ville moderne*,’ or foreign quarter, stretching along the shore as far as the bed of the Paillon torrent, and the ‘*ville centrale*,’ containing the principal shops and native residences, which is separated from the ‘*ville du port*’ by the rock of the château: besides these, the great suburbs of *Carabacel* and *S. Étienne* are ever increasing inland.

Nice still preserves its old Greek name of Νίκη—victory, which the Phoecean colonists gave it after a great victory over the native Ligurians. Its first bishop, S. Bassus, was martyred in 250. The town suffered much from the Saracens who occupied all the neighbouring mountain strongholds in the x. c. till their expulsion in 975. Afterwards, it fell successively into the hands of the Comtes de Provence, of the house of Anjou, and of the Comtes de Savoie, undergoing numerous and terrible sieges. In 1859 it was ceded with Savoy by Victor Emmanuel II. to Napoléon III. The painters Carle Vanloo and Ludovico Bréa (founder of the Genoese school), were natives of Nice. Massena was born, the son of a small woollen-draper, in a narrow street near S. Reparata; Garibaldi was born in a house near the Boulevard de l’Impératrice, where his brother was murdered.

There is little worth notice at Nice except the scenery. The hill of the *Château* (reached by the Avenue Eberlé) has pleasant walks and views, but its buildings were blown up by the Duke of Berwick in 1706. The *Croix de Marbre*, standing under a picturesque little canopy, opposite to the

English church, commemorates a so-called conference, in 1538, between Paul III., Charles V., and François I. The *Promenade des Anglais* extends for 2 k. along the shore from the Paillon to the Magnan, and ends towards the E. at the



NICE, FROM CHÂTAIGNIER.

*Jardin Public*, which has a good palm-tree. The *Villa Oscar-Bermond* and its memorial chapel recall the death of the Czarevitch Nicolas-Alexandrovitch, April 1865. Here, the dying grand-duke placed the hand of his affianced bride, Princess Dagmar of Denmark, in that of his brother

Alexander, saying, 'Marry my brother ; he is true as crystal, and I wish it,' and, as 'Marie Feodorowna' she became Empress of Russia.

Of the excursions round Nice—

1. *Villefranche* (Villafranca), with a station on the railway, is reached most pleasantly by the road which, passing the port, skirts the promontory of *Montboron*, by the sea. The old fishing



VILLAFRANCA.

town, with its martello tower, its brown roofs, interspersed by domes of churches and convents, and here and there a palm-tree, waving above the crumbling houses, has a very eastern aspect. In the narrow streets, heaps of oranges, dates, figs, and plums, are piled up for sale on either side of the broad sunny pavement. Below is the quay, where the deep blue sea washes up among yellow rocks under the gaily-painted houses, while a number of boats ply to and fro to carry visitors to the large men-of-war which frequently lie at anchor in the harbour.



To the E. of Villafranca, by the new road to Monaco, or by sea (4 k.), or rail from Nice, is the peninsula of *Beaulieu*, with a number of pleasantly situated houses in a very warm situation sheltered by the rocks of the *Petite-Affrique*. A pleasant road along the sea leads to *S. Jean*, whence it is a short distance further to the *Presqu'île S. Hospice*, on whose eastern point is a ruined fort, built by Victor Amadeus I., and destroyed in 1706 by Marshal Berwick. Near this is the ruined castle of *S. Hospice*, an anchorite of the VI. c., who prophesied the victories of the Lombards ('*Venient in Galliam Longobardi et vastabunt civitates septem.*')

2. *Cimies* (Hotel : *Grand*. Omnibus, 50 c. from 34 Boulevard du Pont Neuf), reached either by turning r. from Carabacel at the end of the Rue Gioffredo, or turning l. near the end of the old town from the road along the Paillon. The former route traverses the small remains of the *Roman Amphitheatre*, called by the natives 'Il tino delle fade,' or the fairies' bath. A short distance beyond this is a *Franciscan Convent*, in front of which some noble cork-trees overshadow a crucifix bearing the six-winged seraphin which appeared to *S. Francis of Assisi*. In the church are pictures by Ludovico Bréa. The grounds of the *Villa Garin* contain some small Roman remains. A subterranean passage is said to extend under the Paillon from hence to the little chapel of *S. Roch* on *Mont Vinaigrier*. In this passage the natives say that the devil sits at a table, with a golden horn upon it, whilst a golden goat and a golden kid stand by his side ; for one half-hour in the day the devil sleeps, and if, during that half-hour, anyone had the courage to go down, they might carry off the golden goat and the golden kid in safety, and would be enriched for life.

Near the foot of the *Cimies* hill, on the *Paillon* side, a little *Chapel* on a rock marks the spot where *S. Pons*, bishop of *Cimies*, is said to have been beheaded in 261. The buildings of the *Abbey of S. Pons*, founded 775, are modern.

3. N. of Nice. Close to *S. Étienne*, beyond the railway station, on the l. is the picturesque villa of *Péol*, which belonged to the great *Lascaris* family, of whom *Paul Lascaris de Castellane*, *Bailli de Manosque*, was *Grand Master* of the *Order of Malta* from 1636-57, and of which family the *Order* numbered thirteen members.

Taking the road to the N. from the circular cross-ways beyond the railway and then turning l., we find the *Convent of S. Barthélemy*, behind which there is one of the best views (artistically speaking) near Nice.

A walk of 45 min. behind S. Barthélemy will take us (beyond the *Villa Arson*, whence there is an admirable view) to the little gorge known as *Vallon Obscur*.



THE CRUCIFIX OF CIMIES.

The *Ray Mill*, with its old olive trees, named from an aqueduct which bore water to Cemenelum, is a favourite subject with artists.

The *Vallon des Fleurs* or *Vallon des Hépatiques* (Valloun des Flous) is about an hour's walk, following the road to S. André as far as the iron cross of Gairaut, and then turning r.

4. *S. André* (6k.), reached by the road along the W. bank of the Paillon (passing S. Pons) is a beautiful spot crowned by an old château, with pines and ilexes overhanging a ravine. Here,

over the torrent of La Garbe, is one of the natural tunnels—Grotte de S. André—not uncommon in this district.

The hill to the W. is crowned by the village of *Falicon*, whence one may return to Nice by descending to the valleys on the other side, towards S. Barthélemy. Beyond S. André the high-road (to Coni by Valdieri) enters a gorge, like some of the passages in the Val Moutiers, where the perpendicular rocks



S. BARTHELEMY, NEAR NICE.

are fringed with pines, above the tossing and struggling torrent. A ruined wall on the rock, which looks like a hermitage, marks the spot where the French, during their occupation of Nice, successfully defended this ravine against the Piedmontese, who tried to make a descent through it upon the town. On l. is a turn which leads to the three-storied *Grotte de Falicon*, called by the natives 'Grotta di Ratapignata,' from the number of bats which inhabit it. Beyond this, *Mont Chauve* is seen above the lower hills. On the r., on the site of a Roman oppidum, is *Tourette*,

with a highly-painted church, a xiv. c. château, and a curious reef of pointed rocks stretching towards the valley. Passing *Tourette-en-Bas*, the ruined walls of the large village of *Châteauneuf*, now utterly deserted, are conspicuous, cresting a barren hill on the r. There is no interest in the further drive to (22 k. from Nice) the large village of *Levens* (Levenzo), where there was a fortress in Roman times, and where the people put up a monument called



S. ANDRÉ, NEAR NICE.

*Boutaou* to commemorate their deliverance from the Grimaldi de Beuil (who had tyrannized over them from 1400 to 1621), after the Baron de Beuil had been strangled by order of the Duc de Savoie, for having conspired to deliver Nice to Spain. Small ruins exist of the Grimaldi castle, demolished by popular fury.

Good walkers may leave their carriages at Levens and cross the mountain ridge to (2 hrs. from Levens) *S. Martin du Var* (26 k. from Nice), by a path which has grand views of the 'Seven



*Villages of the Var,* especially S. Jeannet and Carros (see p. 533). On the course of the Var, above S. Martin (30 k. from Nice), is the curious defile of *Échaudan*, but the greater part of the Var scenery is spoilt by the river being usually only a vast dry, stony bed.

A more interesting way is to return from Levens along the ridges of the hills, through very wild scenery by the fortified village of *Aspremonte*, an exceedingly picturesque place, with most grand views over sea and land, and thence to reach Nice either by Cimies (see p. 539), or by *S. Romain*, a lovely spot, with old houses and a gaily-painted campanile amongst groves of ancient olive trees. Hence one may descend upon *Les Scires* and



ASPREMONTE.

drive home by the lanes of *S. Augustin*, or one may follow the ridges of the hills above the Magnan, which have glorious views of snowy peaks above the nearer purple hills, and where the *Pin de Bellet* marks the summit of a hill covered with vineyards producing the famous wine of the name. This walk, which brings the excursionist down at the extreme W. end of Nice, may recall the lines of Delille—

‘ Oh, Nice, heureux séjour, montagnes renommées,  
De lavende, de thyme, de citron parfumées,  
Que de fois sous tes plants d’oliviers toujours verts,  
Dont la paleur s’unit au sombre azur des mers,  
J’égarai mes regards sur ce théâtre immense.’

‘ *Jardins.*’

5. The ascent of *Mont Chauve* (869 mèt.)—or *Mont Cau* (*Monte Calvo*)—is usually made by way of *Cimies*, following thence the road to *Falicon* for some distance, and then turning l.

6. But far the most interesting excursion is that to *Peglione*.



THE ASCENT TO PEGLIONE.

Carriages may be taken—or the diligence to *Turin* by *Tenda*—passing *Drap*, the possession of which gave the title of Count to the bishops of *Nice*, as far as a stone bridge over the *Peille* at its junction with the *Paillon*, near (20 k.) *l'Escarène*, 7 k. N. of which is the village of *Lucéram* (*Luci ara*), under the *Gros-Braus*. Near

this also is the *Fontaine de Giallier*, where Lady Bute, travelling in the time of the First Empire, was waylaid by a notorious band of brigands, who had long baffled pursuit, and was robbed of all her diamonds and other valuables. Lady Bute had with her a bottle



PEGLIONE FROM THE EAST.

of opium, which she used medicinally, and the robbers, mistaking it for a liqueur, drank some of it. Soon, overwhelmed by sleep, they lay down in a corn-field, where they were taken by gendarmes. It was then found that many members of the best families in Nice belonged to the band, and lived handsomely upon their plunder,

even inviting the unsuspecting authorities of the town to their banquets.

Donkeys may be sent on to the bridge of the Paillon. Hence a path winds for about two hours through a valley, and then ascends by zigzags to *Peglione*, which has long been visible at the top of a conical rock, rising high above the forests of olives, against the wild extraordinary peaks of the surrounding



EZA.

mountains. The town itself is exceedingly picturesque and has a broad terrazone, with curious old houses on one side and a little chapel painted with quaint frescoes on the other. But far the most important view is to be found beyond the village, from a little platform backed by rocks. Hence *Peglione* is seen in the foreground, on the top of a gigantic precipice, around the foot of which sparkles the winding river, whilst beyond, billow upon billow of hill in every delicate hue of rose-colour, purple and blue, fall back to melt into the distant snow mountains.



In the whole of the rest of France there is no single view more striking than this ; and though many scenes of the Pyrenees and Alps are far grander, nothing is so perfect in composition or artistic detail.

It is about an hour's walk or ride by a wild mountain path from Peglione to Peglia (see later).]

[An excursion may be made from Nice to *Turbia* (see later), returning by Roccabruna and Monaco, and following the new road thence by Beaulieu and Villafranca. A very beautiful view of Nice may be obtained by taking a little path to the r. amongst the olives, after passing a chapel, on the ascent. At a short distance further is a grand view of *Eza*, rising on a precipitous rock between the mountains and the sea, backed by a glorious succession of bays and peninsulas. The precipices which the excellent high-road traverses are sufficient to give some ideas of a journey along the old mule path from Nice to Genoa before it was made.

'Ayant appris qu'on pouvait aller à Gênes par terre, en chaise à porteurs, nous prîmes la résolution de faire ce périlleux voyage. J'envoyai chercher l'homme qui nous louait des mulets. Je voulus le questionner sur les dangers de la route. Cet homme, après m'avoir attentivement écoutée, me répondit en propres termes : " Je ne suis point inquiet pour vous, mesdames ; mais, à la vérité, je crains un peu pour mes mulets, parceque l'an passé j'en perdis deux, qui furent écrasés par de gros morceaux de roche qui tombèrent sur eux, car il s'en détache souvent de la montagne." Cette manière de nous tranquilliser ne nous rassura pas beaucoup, mais cependant elle nous fit rire et nous partîmes.' —*Mme. de Genlis.*]

[A road practicable for carriages (45 fr. ; time, 9 hrs.), as far as S. Sauveur (or S. Salvadour), where there is a poor inn, then a mule path for 8 hrs. (mule, 3 fr. 50 c. a day ; guide, 5 fr.), then a road of 8 k. forms the communication between Nice and Barcelonnette (see ch. x.). The first part of the road follows the gorges of the Var (see p. 543), then (28 k.) of the Tinée.

From S. Sauveur a mule path leads W. to (8 hrs.) *Guillaumes*, through a very wild district, passing the curious village of *Péone*, surrounded by pointed rocks of the strangest forms. Another point well worth visiting from S. Sauveur is (1½ k. E. by the mule path which leads in 5 hrs. to S. Martin Lantosque) the village of *Rimplas*, with a XII. c. castle, in a marvellous mountain position of extreme picturesqueness, and with a magnificent view.]

[A carriage road leads from Nice to (65 k.) the dismal town of *Puget Théniers*, following that to S. Sauveur for 28 k., then passing through (30 k.) the gorge of *Échaudan*, and by (54 k.) the picturesque village of *Touët de Beuil*, near which is the curious ravine called *Clus des Champs*.]

[The road which leads N. from Nice to S. *Martin Lantosque* (carriages, including pourboire, 44 fr.) is the same as that by S. André to (22 k.) *Levens* (see p. 542). After passing *Levens* the road skirts the base of the *Mont Dragon*. The village of *Cros* is seen beautifully situated above the olives on the other side of the river *Vésubie*. The road now ascends to (29 k.) *Duranus*, formerly *Rouquespavière*, then passes through a tunnel in the rock. The fortified village of *Utelle* is seen opposite, on the side of a bare hill crowned by the chapel of *Notre Dame des Miracles*. After descending to S. *Jean de la Rivière*, the road passes through a gorge of the *Vésubie* to (40 k.) *Le Suchet*, and by a second gorge to (45 k.) the picturesque village of *Lantosque* (*Lantosca*), on a rocky promontory which seems to close the valley of the *Vésubie*. On a hill on r. are now seen the ruined castle and fortified village of *La Bollène*. At 51 k. is *Roquebillière*, on the site of a Roman station, whence the road ascends to (59 k.) S. *Martin Lantosque* (Hotels: *des Alpes; de Bellevue; de la Grande Bretagne*. Pensions: *Ayraudi; Anglo-Américaine; S. Étienne; Müller*), a prosperous little mountain town, close to the Italian frontier, with a beautiful neighbourhood, much frequented during the summer months, as well for its mineral waters as its fine air. An excursion may be made to the delightfully situated baths of *Berthemont* (Hotel: *des Bains*), with the little falls of the *Spaillard*. A walk or ride of 8 hrs. leads

from S. Martin to Valdieri (in Italy) by the *Col de la Fenêtre*, with its pilgrimage chapel and little lake; or in 5½ hrs. by the *Col de Cérèse* to the baths of Valdieri. By the mule path to S. Sauveur (5 hrs.) Rimplas (see above) may be visited. There is a fine view from the *Cime du Sirol* (2,015 mètr.)]

[The road from Nice into Italy by the Col di Tenda is the same as that followed in the excursion to Peglione, as far as the Pont du Peille. After leaving (20 k.) *Escarène*, the route is very picturesque. From (22 k.) *Touët de l'Escarène*, which belonged to the noble family of Caravadossi, begins the ascent, by a series of zigzags, to the top of the *Col de Braus*, whence the road descends in the same manner, to (41 k.) *Sospello*, the Hospitellum of the Romans, said to have been originally founded by Braus, a companion of Hercules. The town suffered cruelly in the middle-ages from Lombards, Saracens, Guelfs, and Ghibellines (the latter being represented by the powerful families of Lascaris and Grimaldi), but it had the distinction of giving a refuge to many of the Vaudois expelled from their valleys in the XIII. c., and this in spite of its being the summer residence of the Bishop of Ventimiglia. Sospello is a very interesting place. The old bridge of two romanesque arches over the Bevera has a tower in the middle, and the ruined walls exist, as well as the ruins of the *Castel d'Appi* and a convent. The nave of the XVII. c. church of *S. Michel* is supported by two ranges of monolith columns.

Beyond Sospello, the road follows the Bevera for a short distance, and then ascends, crossing the *Col de Brouis*, whence, as well as on the top of the *Authion*, remains may be seen of fortifications raised by the Piedmontese against the French, and which General Brunet vainly tried to take, June 12, 1793. A military road, now used by shepherds and their flocks, leads from the Col de Brouis to the platform of Mille Fourches and to the Authion. The road now descends into the valley of the Roya (the Roman Rutuba), passing (r.) the large village of *Breil* (a name said to come from *Proelium*, a battle fought here between Otho and Vitellius), overlooked by the old tower of *Crivella*. To the E. is seen the singular mountain called *Testa d'Alpe* or *Testa di Giove*.

*Giandola* (52 k. Hotel: *des Étrangers*—good) is beautifully situated at the confluence of the Roya and the Maille. Then the road passes a defile beyond which it reaches its most picturesque point, where blackened houses of the wonderfully situated town of *Saorgio*, an ancient Ligurian stronghold, rise along the edge of lofty rocks above the Roya. One of the rocky promontories which stretch out beyond the houses is occupied by a ruined château of the house of Sales (*Iou Castel del Sal*) and a church, on the site of a temple of Mars and Cybele. The chapel of *Notre Dame de Morin*, with a romanesque tower, which rises high above the road on the r., is a place of pilgrimage. A walk of  $5\frac{1}{2}$  hrs. will take a traveller from Saorgio to Roquebillière by the Col de Raus.

At 69 k. the road reaches the French custom house at *Fontan*, and then enters the striking defile called at first *la Gorge de Berghe*, and further on *le Défilé de Gaudarena*. After crossing the torrent Miniera, we see below the road on the l. (77 k.) the hydropathic establishment of *S. Dalmazzo di Tenda*, occupying an ancient chartreuse. It is a beautiful spot, deservedly frequented in summer, especially by English who are obliged to pass the winter at Nice. 25 minutes' walk distant is the interesting village of *Briga*, celebrated for the honesty and industry of the maid-servants whom it furnishes in large numbers to Nice. Pleasant excursions may be made in the valley of the Miniera, to the Col di Sabbione, and the lakes (tarns) of Valmasca.

Beyond S. Dalmazzo, the road enters another savage defile, by which it reaches (82 k.) *Tenda* (Italian custom-house. Hotel: *National*), which has a fine Lombard church of 1476—1518, and the ruins of an ancient castle of the Lascaris. It is 56 k. from Tenda to Coni.]

Continuing the railway from Nice to Genoa, we pass 229 k. (from Marseilles) *Villefranche* (Villafranca). See p. 538.

231 k. *Beaulieu* (Hotels: *Beaulieu*—very good; *des Anglais*). Owing to a monopoly, this otherwise attractive place is exceedingly expensive as a residence. The railway



runs along the base of the rocks of the Petite Affrique and enters a tunnel, on emerging from which travellers have a glimpse of Eza on its rock.

234 k. *Eza*. The station is in the little bay of the *Anse d'Eza*. The path to the mountain town turns r. from the station, ascends through a little wood, redescends, crosses a torrent, and then mounts rapidly, afterwards turning round the hill side, till it joins the old stony road. The ascent occupies  $1\frac{1}{2}$  hrs. Eza, the ancient Avisium, is a good specimen of the 'castelli' of the Riviera, but is more picturesque at a distance than in itself. It became a great stronghold of the Saracens, who took possession of it, with Turbia and S. Agnèse, in 814, and ravaged the country from thence. The castle, reached by a natural staircase, was almost entirely destroyed by the Turks of Barbarossa in 1543.

237 k. *La Turbia*. A steep path ascends to the village (see p. 560).

240 k. *Monaco* (Hotels : *Beausite* ; *Beauséjour* ; *Bristol* ; *des Étrangers*). The town, which is the smallest capital in Europe except S. Marino, occupies an enchanting position on a rocky promontory overhanging the little Porte d'Hercule, and itself overlooked and sheltered by the grand rock of the *Tête du Chien* (Testa del Can). A popular distich is typical of the *far niente* of existence here—

'Son Monaco, sopra un scoglio  
Non semino, e non raccoglio,  
E pur mangiar voglio.'

It is pleasantest, in ascending from the station, to turn to the l. and enter the gate which leads by the *Promenade*

*S. Martin* or *il Boschetto* to the palace. The rocky terraces are lined with many kinds of aloes, some of which raise their golden stems crowned by masses of flower, as high as the tops of the cypresses, which are mingled with them. The wild luxuriance of euphorbia, cactus, and prickly pear, not content with covering the heights, overruns the walls and fills every crevice of the precipitous cliffs down to the very edge of the sea. Splendid geraniums and a hundred other flowers fringe the walks, while here and there a palm-tree raises its umbrella of delicate foliage into the blue sky. Joining the promenade is the *Convent of the Visitation*, founded 1663, by Prince Louis and his wife Charlotte de Gramont.

Until the beginning of XIII. c. Monaco was only a desolate rock, at the foot of which, ships, coasting along the shores of Liguria and Provence, were wont to seek a refuge in the *Portus Herculis*.

According to Dionysius of Halicarnassus, and other writers, Hercules built a temple here to his own honour after a victory over the ancient Ligurian inhabitants of the territory ('*Monoeci similiter arcum et portum ad perennem suam memoriam consecravit*'), which temple was served by a single priest or monk (*monachus*), whence some derive the name of Monaco. Others believe that the name was due to the Phocians, who gave their temple the distinctive title of *μόνος οἶκος*. Long, however, before the city of Monaco existed, the ancient *Portus Herculis* at its foot was known and valued. Here Augustus Caesar embarked for Genoa, on his way to Rome, after having set up his victorious trophies at La Turbia—'*Aggeribus socer Alpinis atque arce Monoeci descendens*.' The neighbourhood of the port became the scene of combats between Otho and Vitellius, and there Fabius Valens, a general of Vitellius, landed the troops intended for the support of Marius Maturius, against a Gallic rebellion. In 286 the emperor Maximin returned by this way from his expedition against the Bogandes, a fact recorded by

Claudius in the words—'In modo Galliae oppida illustraveras ; jam summas arces Monoeci Herculis praeteribas.'

The scattered Ligurian villages, which occupied these shores, were constantly pillaged and destroyed by the Saracens, who in 814 took possession of the heights of Eza, Turbia, and S. Agnèse, whence they descended from their mountain castles to ravage the neighbourhood, the Portus Monoeci itself falling



MONACO.

entirely into their hands, and lying utterly waste during the iv. c., v. c., and vi. c. At length, amongst the Christian champions who appeared to do battle in their behalf was a noble knight of Genoa, called Gibellino Grimaldi, who, after a great victory over the Saracens, was welcomed as a deliverer by the inhabitants, and received the district fringing this beautiful gulf, as the reward of his valour. This was the beginning of the Grimaldi rule, and the first cause of the Genoese power in Monaco. Afterwards, all the land of the Ligurian Riviera, from Monaco to Porto

Venere, was granted in fief to the Genoese by the emperor Frederick I.; a grant which was recognized by their neighbour Count Raymond of Provence, in a charter which gave them —‘podium et montem Monaci, cum suis pertinenciis ad incastellandum.’ This cession was renewed by the emperor Henry IV., on condition that the Genoese would build a castle at Monaco, for the better defence of the Christians against the Saracens.

Hitherto no building had occupied the heights of Monaco, except a chapel, which had been built on the site of the ancient temple in 1078, by two inhabitants of La Turbia. But in consequence of the grant to Genoa, three galleys from thence, containing a number of noble Genoese citizens, with one Fulco di Castello at their head, and followed by galleys laden with timber, iron, and other materials for building, disembarked at Monaco on June 6, 1191, when, having defined their rights in the presence of the imperial commissioners by making the circuit of the desolate rock with olive boughs, they erected a fortress, with four towers and circular walls, around which a new town soon began to spring up.

From 1270—1340 the citadel of Monaco served as a refuge alternately to Guelfs represented by the Grimaldi, and to Ghibellines under the guidance of the Spinola. Each party twice besieged the other within its walls, and each was twice supplanted by its opponents. On the Christmas Eve, however, of 1306, while all the inhabitants (Monégasques) were celebrating their solemn midnight mass, Charles Grimaldi contrived to enter Monaco disguised as a monk, and, having cut the throats of the sentinels, to let in his accomplices; and from this period, with the exception of eleven years (1327-38) the place remained in the hands of the Grimaldi, of whom Rubella Grimaldi bought a formal investment of his rights from Genoa, for twelve hundred gold florins. In 1346, Charles Grimaldi I. purchased part of Mentone from Emmanuele Vento of Genoa, and Roccabruna from Guglielmo Lascaris, Conte di Ventimiglia, for 161,000 florins; the rest of Mentone being bought by another branch of the Grimaldi family.

Many are the romantic incidents in the history of the Grimaldi princes—of Regnier Grimaldi (1363—1407), the brave partizan in turn of popes and antipopes; of Jean I. (1424-54), who was covered with glory in a great naval victory over the Venetians and married to the daughter of the Genoese doge Tommaso Fregosa



as a reward, but who afterwards was the first Prince of Monaco who did homage for his dominions to the Duke of Savoy; of Jean II. (1493—1505), murdered by his brother Lucien; of Lucien (1505-23), who successfully withstood a siege by the Genoese, and was murdered in his palace by his nephew Bartolommeo Doria of Dolceacqua; of Hercules (1589—1604), who sought the Spanish protectorate which has left so many traces in the patois of the neighbouring mountain villages, and who was summarily drowned in front of Monaco by citizens whose daughters he had insulted; of Honorius I. (1604-62), who exchanged the protectorate of Spain for that of France; of Honorius III. (1731), who married the beautiful Catarina Brignole, niece of the doge of Genoa, and who died at the beginning of the great Revolution, in which his family lost their sovereignty for twenty-one years.

‘When the empire of Napoléon I. was being re-divided by the European powers, the principality of Monaco was given back to the Matignon-Grimaldi. They restored their fortunes in the person of Honorius V., through his cruel extortions from the people whom he treated as his serfs, by confiscating to his own use the property of the communes, hospitals, and churches, and by seizing the monopoly of commerce of every description, constituting himself at once the only farmer, miller, butcher, and baker of the principality.

‘Whenever the municipal police of Genoa prohibited the sale of some damaged corn, the prince’s contractor immediately bought it up, declaring that it was only too good for the people of Monaco. If any good corn was by chance found in the warehouses at Monaco, it was immediately *exported to be resold*, and worse grain bought in its place. The price of this horrible bread rose till it became double that in any other place; then the people addressed a petition to their prince. His only answer was a threat of severe punishment, and the declaration that he would rule them with a rod of iron, “*qu’il ferait peser sur eux un bras de fer.*”

‘Any attempts of the unhappy inhabitants to obtain bread from Nice, were frustrated by the cordon of surveillance drawn around the principality, and all such signs of rebellion were immediately punished. Even travellers, passing through Monaco,

were forced to give up any provisions they might have, on arriving at the frontier, and the Sardinian workman on crossing the boundary was not allowed to bring with him his dinner of the day. If the owner of any boat from a strange port, on entering the port of Monaco, had left uneaten any part of the loaves of bread with which his vessel was furnished on leaving home, he was taught by the confiscation of his vessel and a fine of 500 fr. to calculate better another time.

‘In order still further to fill up the deficiencies in his treasury, caused by the Revolution, the Prince forced those who had acquired any of the lands which had belonged to his ancestors, to give them up without any indemnity. No one in the principality was allowed to export wood, except the Prince himself, and no one was even allowed to cut down a bough from one of his own olive trees, unless the stroke were authorized by the government, and given in the presence of officials. No one was allowed to sell his own crops, except at a price fixed by the police, and then the purchaser, instead of paying the sum to the proprietor, was obliged to bring his money to a receiver-general established by the Prince, who exacted one per cent. on the sale. In a short time no one was allowed to till his own land or water it, or to prune his own trees, without the permission of the police; and at last no one was allowed to leave his house after ten o'clock at night, without being furnished with a lanthorn, which was also a pretext for a fine. The taxes became at length too absurd for belief. The birth or death of an animal had to be entered in the public register on the same day, on payment of a fine, and was of course taxed. The tax on the birth of a lamb was twenty-five centimes.’—‘*A Winter at Mentone.*’

After thirty-three years of the most cruel oppression, Mentone and Roccabruna rebelled (March 2, 1848), and placed themselves under the protection of Italy, enjoying nine years of liberty, till they were induced, in 1860, to vote for annexation to France, at the time of the cession of Nice. The claims of the Prince of Monaco to that part of his former dominions were at the same time purchased by France for £160,000. Even Monaco itself is now subject to French conscription and taxation, so that the real authority of the Prince is reduced to little more than that of

a syndic. The late Prince (1890) was a man of letters, and took great interest in arranging and bringing to light the historic archives of his family.

The only building of importance on the rock of Monaco is the *Palace*, 'restored' out of all appearance of antiquity. It is shown, but is in no way remarkable. There is a handsome marble staircase, and the Sala Grimaldi is an old hall decorated in fresco by Orazio da Ferrara, and possessing a fine renaissance chimney-piece inscribed—'Qui dicit se nosse Deum et mandata ejus non observat mendax est.' The Princes formerly always gave a ball here on the festival of S Devota, to which the inhabitants of Monaco, rich and poor, were invited *en masse*, the rich dancing all the evening on one side of the hall, and the peasants on the other, but neither ever passing an imaginary boundary, while the Prince and the grandees looked down from a gallery. Antonio I. also gave grand ballets here in imitation of those of Versailles, and, being a good musician, would lead the orchestra himself with a bâton bequeathed to him by Lulli. The chapel has a Baptism of Christ by *Jourdain*. A room, decorated with frescoes, attributed to Annibale Caracci, is shown as that in which Edward Augustus, Duke of York, brother of George III., died (Sept. 7, 1767). Whilst Vice-Admiral of the Blue, he had been ill with a fever off Monaco, and was brought on shore to receive the hospitality of the Prince. His room has since been used as a mortuary chapel for the princes of Monaco. Most of the historic apartments of the palace, including the chamber where Prince Lucien was assassinated in 1523, have been long since destroyed, but the palace, as it remains, was well restored by the late Prince (Charles III.), who

collected here his precious MSS.—from his château of Marchais near Laon, from his mother's hôtel in the Rue S. Dominique at Paris, and from his own Parisian residence, 16 Rue Guillaume. The MSS. include the papers of the Maréchal de Matignon referring to the Wars of Religion, from the time of François I. to the death of Louis XIV.; letters by François I., François II., Henri III., Henri IV., Catherine de Médicis, Condé, Anne of Austria, Louvois, Colbert, etc. Amongst other relics, the great seal of the Sire de Joinville is preserved here. A passage between the N. and E. wings of the palace leads to the private gardens, delightful terraces of aloes and geraniums, bordered with myrtle and thyme, overlooking a lovely view of the bay. Behind, are the old bastions and fortifications, among which is the famous 'Saraval,' which withstood many a siege in the time of the earlier princes. The rocks below the gardens are covered with prickly pears, first introduced from Africa by Battista, a Franciscan monk of Savona, in 1537; the fruit is gathered by a man let down from the wall in a basket. The aloes generally flower when they attain their fifteenth year, and then die, leaving a numerous progeny behind them.

In the principal church of S. Barbara, rebuilt 1888-90, in the romanesque style, Pope Pius VI. lay in state, after a storm had obliged the ship bearing his body to take refuge in the Port d'Hercule, only a few months after he had been burnt in effigy by the people of Monaco.

In the port, the suburb *Condamine*—formerly 'Gau-mates'—has baths much frequented in summer. Where a little mountain torrent issues from the rocks to fall into the sea, a chapel nestles in the ravine with a lofty arch



behind. This — completely modernised, and its grand cypresses recently cut down—is all that remains of a once famous shrine dedicated to *S. Devota*, a virgin of Corsica, martyred under Diocletian.

‘According to the Lérins Chronicles, “In order that Devota might not be buried by the Christians, the Roman governor ordered her body to be reduced to ashes, but the priest Benvenuto and the deacon Apollinaris, being warned in a vision to remove the body of the saint from the island, came by night, embarked it, and set sail with a sailor named Gratien, intending to land on the coast of Africa. Their efforts were in vain, and all night long they were driven back by a south wind, which carried them towards the shore of Liguria. The following morning, while the sailor was asleep, the saint appeared to him in a dream, and told him joyfully to continue his course, and observe that which should come out of her mouth, which would show him where she wished to be buried. And from the mouth of the saint the pilot and his two companions saw a white dove issue, which took the direction of Monaco. They watched it till it settled in the valley called Gaumates, on the east of the city. There Devota was buried, and there an oratory was afterwards built to her, with a monastery attached to it, dependent upon that of S. Pons.” Another legend describes that the vessel bearing the remains of the saint was wrecked off Monaco, and that only one fragment of it drifted into the Port of Hercules, with the dead body of a beautiful maiden lashed upon it, and an inscription telling that it was that of Devota, Corsican virgin and martyr.’—‘*A Winter at Mentone*.’

242 k. *Monte Carlo* (Hotels: *Grand de Paris*, close to the Casino; *de Russie*; *Continental*—best, and dear; *du Prince de Galles*; *des Princes*; *de Londres*; *Beaurivage*; *du Parc*,—all frequented by the gambling world; *Victoria* and *Windsor* are quieter, and more adapted to invalids). On the E. of the port of Monaco rises the hill of *Spélugues* (caves), till the last twenty years a wild spot covered with heath and

rosemary, now the site of the *Casino*, a splendid gambling-house, with concert-room and ball-room attached to it. The gardens, though somewhat meretricious in taste, have beautiful shrubs and flowers, and a noble group of palm-trees near the steps which lead down from the terrace to the station.

‘The present lord of Monaco is but the ruler of a few streets and some two thousand subjects. His army reminds one of the famous war establishment of the older German princelings; one year, indeed, to the amazement of beholders, it rose to the gigantic force of four and twenty men, but then, as we were gravely told by an official, “it had been doubled in consequence of the war.” Idler and absentee as he is, the Prince is faithful to the traditions of his house; the merchant indeed sails without dread beneath the once dreaded rocks of the pirate haunt; but a new pirate town has risen on the shores of its bay. It is the pillage of a host of gamblers that maintains the heroic army of Monaco, that cleanses its street, and fills the exchequer of its lord.’—*J. R. Green, ‘Stray Studies.’*

A delightful road leads to Roccabruna by *Vieille*, the Roman *Vigiliae*, and the *Chapelle du Bon Voyage*, which marks the limits of the principality.

[Two mountain ways, one almost a staircase, lead in  $1\frac{1}{2}$  hrs. from S. Devota to *La Turbia* (Trophaea-Turbia), which in ancient times marked the boundary between Gaul and Italy (by a boundary stone inscribed, ‘Hucusque Italia, dehinc Gallia’), and, till the middle of the middle-ages, that between Provence and Liguria. The tower of Augustus, a trophy of his victories over the Alpine tribes, was erected by him on the most conspicuous point of the Maritime Alps, on the spot which is indicated in the itinerary of Antoninus as ‘Alpis Summa.’ In the middle-ages it was used as a fortress, and in the xvii. c. was ruined by the Maréchal de Villars.

Poet-lovers always like to read on the spot, even the feeblest lines of Tennyson, who says—

‘What Roman strength Turbia showed  
 In ruin, by the mountain road;  
 How like a gem, beneath, the city  
 Of little Monaco basking glowed.’

‘*The Daisy.*’

About 2 k. inland from Turbia is the convent of *Laghetto* (Notre Dame de Laguet). We turn r. at S. Catarina, a little W. of Turbia, near the *Colonna del Re*, commemorating a pil-



CONVENT OF LAGHETTO.

grimage of King Charles Felix, for which the present road was constructed in 1826. The convent stands on a rugged rock at the foot of Mont Sembola, isolated in wet weather by mountain torrents, which surround it on every side, to fall far below into the Paillon. It is a very picturesque building; a few grey aloes and some very old olive-trees vary the uniformity of the rock, while two or three large umbrella pines, on the edge of the rift above the little village of Laghetto, form a good foreground to the mountain range which closes the three sides of the valley. In the church, an image of the XVI. c., commemorating a far older

image (said still to exist in the neighbourhood), has been solemnly chosen by the town of Nice as its special patroness and protectress, and attracts vast pilgrimages, especially on Trinity Sunday, when numbers of crippled persons are brought hither in the hope of a miracle.

‘The original image is said to have been discovered by a young man of Ventimiglia, who went to visit his sister at Turbia. While staying with her, he went out shooting in the neighbourhood. When he reached the hill of Laghetto, not far from an old wall, upon which a figure of the Virgin was painted in a niche, he saw a bird resting amongst the bramble leaves, and shot it dead. But on coming nearer he was horrified to see that the ball had struck the painted Virgin on the breast, whence blood was issuing. Hurrying back to his family, he narrated his adventure, and they decided to build a chapel on the spot in expiation of his unintentional sacrilege.

‘In 1652, when nothing remained of this chapel, except its worm-eaten image, Hyacinthe Casanova, a native of Monaco, who believed that his recovery from dangerous illness was due to the intercession of the Virgin, urged the erection of the present chapel, to which the image, which is now shown, was presented by Antonio Fighiera, a lawyer of Nice, in whose family it had long been venerated. From this time the reputed miracles of Laghetto increased to such a degree that, in 1683, even the bishop of Nice refused to believe in them, and caused the church to be shut up; but after a public examination he was induced to re-open it, when the image underwent a solemn coronation. . . . The princes and princesses of Savoy have always been indefatigable in their pilgrimages to Laghetto, especially King Charles Emmanuel II., who, having placed his sick child under the protection of this particular image, presented it, when the child recovered, with a golden baby of the size and weight of his own. This, with all the other treasures of the shrine, was carried off in 1792 by the French, who plundered and destroyed everything except the image itself, which had been smuggled away before their arrival to La Turbia. It remained there till 1802, when it was brought back with a procession in great pomp.’—*‘A Winter at Mentone.’*



In front of the convent are two inscriptions; the first upon the pedestal of the fountain, which may be translated—

‘Pilgrim, you find here two streams; one descends from heaven, the other from the top of the mountains. The first is a treasure which the Virgin distributes to the piety of the faithful, the second has been brought here by the people of Nice; drink of both, if you thirst for both. A.D. 1654.’

The other inscription commemorates a grand scene of Italian history, when—in this lonely valley, amid these desolate mountains—Charles Albert, the beloved of his people, for the preservation of his honour and his faith, took leave of his court, his crown, and the world.

‘Here, on the morning of the 26th of March, 1849, Charles Albert, after leaving the fatal field of Novara, rested, an unknown exile. Here, having devoutly confessed, and at the table of Jesus refreshed his weary spirit, he renewed the sacrifice of his affections and sorrows. Here, he forgave his injuries, grieved for the common misfortunes, and, abandoning Italy in person, commended its destinies to the patronage of the Virgin Mother.’

The name of Laghetto is derived from the fact that once when the torrent was unusually swollen by the melting of the mountain snows, the fall of a large rock so effectually checked its progress to the sea, that the whole valley became a lake.

From *Mont-Agel* (1,149 mètr.) on the N.E. of Turbia there is a very fine view. Turbia is the nearest point on any high-road from which to reach Peglia (see later), and Peglione (see p. 544).

245 k. *Roquebrune* (Roccabruna), see p. 571. The railway skirts the olive-wood of the Cap S. Martin, and crosses the torrents of Gorbio and Borrigo to—

249 k. *Menton* (Mentone).

English doctors—seldom acquainted with the place—are apt to recommend the Western Bay as more bracing, but it is exposed to mistral and dust, and its shabby suburbs have none of the beauty of the Eastern Bay.

Hotels: Eastern Bay, *Italie* and *Bellevue*—both beautifully situated in high, sunny, terraced gardens, and with lovely views; *des Anglais*; *Grande Bretagne*; *Grand*; *Beaurivage*; *Pension Santa Maria*; *Pension Beausite*, on the shore. Western Bay, or western side of the town, *des Îles Britanniques*; *du Louvre*; *des Ambassadeurs*; *Continental*; *Alexandra*; *Splendid*; *Cosmopolitan*, and many others. The hotels in the town itself are especially subject to bad odours.

*Carriages*. By a tariff—most exorbitantly dear for the excursions.

Mentone, sheltered by its Alpine background from the N. and E. winds, and surrounded by groves of lemons, oranges, and olives, is much frequented by invalids as a winter residence. Up to 1860 it was a picturesque fishing town, with a few scattered villas let to strangers in the neighbouring olive groves, and all its surroundings were most beautiful and attractive; now much of its two lovely bays is filled with hideous and stuccoed villas in the worst taste. The curious old walls are destroyed, and pretentious paved promenades have taken the place of the beautiful walks under tamarisk groves by the sea shore. Artistically, Mentone is vulgarised and ruined, but its dry, sunny climate is delicious, its flowers exquisite, and its excursions—for good walkers—are inexhaustible and full of interest.

The history of Mentone is chiefly that of its petty tyrants of the families of Vento, Grimaldi, and Lascaris. Early in the xvi. c. it was united by Lucien Grimaldi to Monaco, of whose princes it continued to suffer the exactions till 1848, when it proclaimed itself a free town under the protection of Sardinia. Then, for thirteen years, it enjoyed absolute liberty, and only paid taxes to itself. In 1860 it threw away its freedom, language, and traditions to become

French. The evil-smelling town has been much modernised of late years, especially by the ugly promenade, which has destroyed the character of the western bay, and much of that of the eastern. On the crest of the hill above Mentone, joining the cemetery, are some fragments of the mediaeval castle of *Poggio Pino*, a stronghold of the Counts of



MENTONE, FROM HÔTEL D'ITALIE.

Ventimiglia, and at the end of the little promontory occupied by the town is the *Fort*, a small yellow wave-beaten castle, whose picturesqueness has been recently destroyed by a modern pier.

‘From the upper terrace, on the E. of the town, beneath the Hôtels Bellevue and Italie, the much-modernised gateway of

S. Julien still leads into the Strada Lunga, the narrowest of carriageable streets, which, till quite modern days, was the great street of the town, where, before the great Revolution, the ladies of Mentone used to sit out and work in the open air, just as the peasants do now, before the doors of the houses or (one is expected to say) "palaces." A letter of the last century describes "the animated appearance" which this gave to the place in those days, the gentlemen stopping to chat with each group as they passed. "Towards evening, all the society walked out to the Cap S. Martin to drink coffee and play at games, under the Aristocrats' Tree," and the nights were enlivened by frequent serenades, which were given under the windows of pretty girls by their admirers. . . . A house near the entrance of the street, marked with the date 1543, is the abode of the Martini family, who have inhabited it ever since its foundation. A neighbouring building on the left, distinguished by its heavy projecting cornices, was a residence of that branch of the Grimaldi which maintained a separate government in Mentone, and afterwards of the Grimaldi Princes of Monaco, when the rest of the family ceded their rights: its chambers are now used as schools. . . . Lower down the street, near the arch called "Il Portico," is the ascent, by a handsome flight of broad steps, to the principal churches of the town. At the top is a platform, overlooking the bay and the red rocks, with the promontories of Ventimiglia and Bordighera. On one side is the large and handsome parish church of S. Michele, the interior of which was entirely destroyed by the earthquake of 1887. The other church, prettily covered with stucco work, is dedicated to La Santissima Concezione. Opposite S. Michele is the Hospital, attended by sisters of charity. The gateway by the side of it, with a flight of steps beneath, leads up to the cemetery on the hill top, where amongst other graves we may find that of young J. R. Green, the historian of the English people. On the church steps, in the narrow street, "Sotto Il Portico," and everywhere else in Mentone, you are saluted by the characteristic cries of the donkey-drivers, and jostled by the donkeys themselves, which are the regular household servants of the place, and are used to bring down the olives from the mountains, to carry manure back instead, to tread in the wine-press, to work in



the mills, to bring fuel, to rock the little children in their gently-swaying paniers, to supply milk for the babies, and so on, *ad infinitum*, till at last they die of over-work, or old age, and are eaten up in sausages.



STRADA LUNGA, MENTONE.

'At the end of the Rue Longue is the entrance to the Rue Neuve, where, from a terraced garden on the right, Pope Pius VII. blessed the people as he was returning to Rome, after his long exile in France. An inscription opposite marks the house of General Bréa, born here in 1720. On a house in

the Rue S. Michel, an inscription marks the house of Carlo Trenca, the wise and just president of the tiny Mentonese republic during its first happy years of freedom.'—' *A Winter at Mentone.*'

The high road, which runs along the shore of the eastern bay, now fringed by villas, but with lovely glimpses of the Berceau and Gran'Mondo on the N., soon reaches the fine rocky promontory of the Rochers Rouges, near which, at the hamlet of *La Cuze*, the royalist inhabitants of Mentone formed a colony at the Revolution. Here they were safe within the republic of Genoa, and yet within sight of their old homes, after France had taken possession of Mentone, and a brother of Robespierre had been sent there 'to represent the people and guillotine the aristocrats.'

Up to this time the only road from Nice to Genoa (still to be seen in places) was that which Mme. de Genlis describes :—

'En sortant de Nice, cette route est parfaitement bien nommée la Corniche ; c'est en effet presque toujours une vraie Corniche ; en beaucoup d'endroits si étroite qu'une personne y peut à peine passer.'

But, soon after his coronation, Napoléon I. ordered the construction of a great military road from Nice to Genoa, though it was only finished as far as Ventimiglia before his fall cut short its completion. The finest point on this road is where, 2 k. from Mentone, the *Pont S. Louis* crosses an abyss between two rocks by a single arch of 22 mètres span, and 80 mètres height. The situation, surrounded by stupendous precipices, is very striking, with an old aqueduct winding to the orange gardens below. The

*Villa S. Louis*, close to the bridge, has a garden of great beauty. Below it, a rugged path winds round the Rochers Rouges (Balzi Rossi) to a platform, whence there is a



PONT S. LOUIS, MENTONE.

splendid view of the town, and of the mountains, embracing the distant coast of France, the Esterel and Antibes, with Monaco, Mont Agel, Turbia, Mont Garillon, Mont Baudon, S. Agnèse, and the Berceau. In the caverns of the rocks, much blasted away in making the

railway, a number of flint weapons and bones of wild animals have been discovered.

At the angle of the road, beyond the Pont S. Louis, is the villa of Dr. Bennet, with a delightful garden, kindly and frequently thrown open to the public. At the end of the next promontory, on the r., is the entrance to the villa of *La Murtola* (Mr. Hanbury), formerly called Palazzo Orega, from the noble Genoese family by whom it was built. Its gardens, to which visitors are admitted by order,<sup>1</sup> are more beautiful than anything out of the *Arabian Nights*, exquisite alike in situation, in their glorious sea and mountain views, and in the unrivalled collection of plants which makes *La Murtola* the most important private garden in Europe.

On the opposite side of the road is the village of *San Mauro*, or *Murtola*, with a gaily-painted church tower, which forms an attractive foreground to the sea view with its rocky promontories.

Amongst the many excursions round Mentone, we may mention, beginning from the W. :

1. The *Cap S. Martin*,  $4\frac{1}{2}$  k. Leaving Mentone by the Nice road, and crossing the torrents Carrei and Borrigo, on the r. are the chapel of *La Madone*, and the gardens which once belonged to the Prince of Monaco, and which contain magnificent umbrella pines. Just beyond was *Carnoles*, a villa of the Grimaldi princes. A number of fragments of Roman masonry have been found near this and built into a modern arch. Crossing the Ponte del Unione, we turn to the l. and reach, near the sea, a path which was part of the old Corniche highway. A circular space in the wood marks the site of 'the Aristocrats' Tree' where the old royalist society of Mentone used to meet, hewn down by the republicans. The cape itself is a reef of jagged black rocks,

<sup>1</sup> On days certified in the Mentone hotels.



overgrown with samphire, and washed from either side of the bay by grand waves, which break upon their sharp edges, in mountains of foam, with a roar like that of cannon.

‘The Cape S. Martin is the centre of the old principality, and the whole of the tiny kingdom of the Grimaldi may be seen from it, guarded in front by the sea and behind by the mountains. But the view extends on either side, far beyond the limits of the State: on the l., Mentone is seen through the tall pines, its houses rising terrace-like to the fine tower of its church; beyond this is Ventimiglia with its frontier castle on a projecting rock, while the same mountain chain ends in the houses and church of Bordighera, white against the deep blue sky. On the r. is Turbia, with its Trophæa Augusti, throned high above the mountains, and, beyond a succession of little sandy coves and corubacled promontories, Monte Carlo, and the rock-built town of Monaco, with its fine palace and hanging gardens nestling at the foot of the great purple rock of the Tête du Chien. Behind, above the cape itself, covered with pines or with olives, some of which are declared to date from Roman times, rise the peaks of Mont Garillon and Mont Baudon, and the castle of S. Agnèse.’—*‘A Winter at Mentone.’*

The greater part of the promontory is now enclosed. In the centre of its beautiful woods is the ruined *Convent of S. Martin*, which gave it a name. When the Saracens were attacking the Ligurian coast, the abbess of this convent made the people of Roccabruna promise to come to the rescue of her nuns at first sound of the convent bell. But on the next night, she could not resist ringing the bell, and did so on three occasions, to test their fidelity. The people of Roccabruna obeyed the summons, and returned very much insulted, and ill-compensated by the blessing of the abbess for the loss of their night's rest. On the fourth time the bell rang, no one took any notice. At dawn the convent was a smoking ruin, and the nuns all carried off by the Saracens.

2. *Roccabruna*, 5 k. Two ways lead hither. It is best to follow the Nice road to the little town, the third city of the old principality, originally a stronghold of the Lascaris, by whom it was sold to Charles Grimaldi in 1353. The old town, with its

palm-tree, castle, and huge yellow rocks, nestles in the purple shadow of Mont Agel. Tradition tells that the whole slid down from a much loftier position in the night, without the sleep of a single inhabitant being disturbed. On the festival of Notre Dame de la Neige, a very curious procession, dating from the middle-ages, still takes place here, in which the Passion is represented—peasants gravely taking the parts of Pilate, Herod, SS. Veronica and Mary Magdalene, etc. The return to Mentone should be varied by taking the Vieille route, which branches off near the church, a narrow mountain-path through olive-woods, which re-enters the high-road near the Prince's gardens.

3. Turbia, 13 k. (see p. 560) and Peglione (see p. 544). Dante alludes to the paths 'tra Lerici e Turbia' as the ideals of roughness and steepness on earth; but, though the ascent becomes steep beyond Roccabruna, the most excellent of high-roads now follows the line by which the Via Aurelia passed through Liguria.

4. *Gorbio*, c. 6 k. The path turns off r. near the Prince's gardens. The valley presents a series of pictures, in its little chapels, with old chestnut trees overhanging them, and in its ruined oil-mills and broken bridges. The village has the usual archways and a half-ruined castle of the Lascaris, which still belongs to a representative of the family, formerly sovereign counts of Ventimiglia. At the annual festa here the peasants have the custom of presenting cockades to all visitors, expecting some trifling gratuity in return. It is only at a festa of this kind that the characteristics of the natives can be studied.

'Voilà le génie de la basse Provence, violent, Lruyant, barbare, mais non sans grâce. Il faut voir ces danseurs infatigables danser la moresque, les sonnettes aux genoux, ou exécuter à neuf, à onze, à treize, la danse des épées, le *bacchuber*, comme disent leurs voisins de Gap; ou bien à Riez, jouer tous les ans la *bravade* des Sarrazins. Pays de militaires des Agricola, des Baux, des Crillon; pays des marins intrépides; c'est une rude école que ce golfe de Lion. Citons le bailli de Saffren, et ce enégat qui mourut capitan-pacha en 1706; nommons le mousse Paul (il ne s'est jamais connu d'autre nom); né sur mer d'une

blanchisseuse, dans une barque battue par la tempête, il devient amiral et donna sur son bord une fête à Louis XIV. ; mais il ne méconnaissait pas pour cela ses vieux camarades, et voulut être enterré avec les pauvres auxquels il laissa tout son bien.'—*Michélet.*

A path connects Gorbio with Roccabruna, and another with S. Agnèse.

5. *S. Agnèse*, 7 k. There are three paths hither. That generally taken crosses the Borrigo torrent near the entrance of the Cabruare valley, whence it begins an abrupt ascent, and, fringed with cistus and myrtle, runs along a high ridge of hill, directly towards the great mountain barrier—jagged precipices of grey rock, rising above the pine-clad slopes. Finally, the path steepens into a staircase, beyond which the village of S. Agnèse comes suddenly in sight, behind great rocks. The village itself is a single street of low brown ruinous houses, above which rises a solitary campanile, whose spire, covered with bright red and yellow tiles, is the only patch of colour in the landscape. Scarcely a vestige of verdure enlivens the dead brown hills, while, behind, rises a second range of mountains, still more dreary, lurid, and barren. Wolves are occasionally seen here in winter. To those who have come from the orange-groves of Mentone, it may seem incredible that the temperature of S. Agnèse is exactly the same as that of Clarens and Montreux, the Italy of Switzerland, yet so it is ; though even the church, in its dedication to 'Notre Dame de la Neige,' bears witness to the character of the place as compared with the surrounding villages. The ruined castle on the rock was inhabited by the Saracenic chieftain Haroun, who, after having been long the terror of the district, became a convert to the Christian maiden Agnèse, whom he had carried off. At the little chapel of S. Agnèse, on the village festa, a golden apple is offered to the clergy by the lord of the manor, who always appears heading the procession in court dress. Till the Revolution, the apple was stuffed with gold pieces, which were presented to the charities of the place ; now it is a mere matter of form. The procession consists chiefly of women, who kneel along the whole length of the terrace, and chaunt the hymn of S. Agnes in the

open air, with white handkerchiefs or veils upon their heads and lighted candles in their hands. Visitors should return to Mentone by the ridge and forest-chapel of *S. Lucia*, one of the most beautiful spots in the district.

6. *Peglia*. This is a long excursion, and Mentone should be left at 7 a.m. The path is available for donkeys the whole way.



PEGLIA.

If Peglione be visited on the same day, the excursion should be deferred till spring. The path is the same as that of the last excursion as far as *S. Agnèse*, beyond this it turns to the l. and continues to wind in the same direction.

'The scenery is wild and arid in the extreme, the desolate hills covered with loose stones, and with scarcely a vestige of vegetation to vary their dead brown, which melts into deep purple in the more distant ranges, while above and beyond snowy Alps rise ghost-like against the sky. 'All is bleakest



solitude till, after about two hours' walk, on turning a corner, a magnificent view rewards us. In the distance is the sea, with the further islands of Hyères and the nearer of Cannes. Beyond the jagged range of Esterel, other capes and promontories, unseen from below, extend their pale forms across the distance; beneath, the mountains are broken into a hundred deep chasms and purple ravines, while the path to Peglia winds serpent-like at the foot of gigantic precipices. A short distance beyond this, on turning a corner by a ruined chapel, the town of Peglia itself is seen, closed in by rugged rocks, its grim grey church standing like a sentinel before the groups of brown houses sleeping in a purple haze, backed by the sunlit sea.

'The curious church is paved by the solid rock, and many of its pillars are masses of rock cut in their own place into huge square blocks. The gigantic font, formed from a single piece of porphyry, and the primitive granite holy-water basins, are curious. Part of the old palace of the Lascaris is now an Hôtel de Ville. One may return to Mentone by a steeper but much shorter path, which descends upon Gorbio.'

7. *The Annunziata*, 3 k. The path turns to the l. from the Sospello road, a little way out of the town. Seven station-chapels rise in rich moulding colour amongst the wormwood and lavender on the tufa rocks. The deserted monastery crowns the top of the hill, haunted, say the natives, by its seven last monks, whose lean faces are seen at night pressed against the grated windows. Like all the other wayside chapels in the district, it is the burial-place of some of the old families.

8. *The Gourg dell' Ora and Castiglione*. The new road to Sospello admits of driving in this direction. The road follows the pleasant valley between the hills of the Annunziata and Castellare. On the l. a mill of three storeys is that where the hated Honorius V. of Monaco ground the bad flour, with which, under pain of enormous fines, he forced his subjects to nourish themselves. The road ascends, from oranges and lemons, to olives, then to pines. Soon after passing (6 k.) the church of *Monti*, a path diverges on the r. to Castellare, passing, at no great distance from the road, the rocky ravine of *Gourg dell' Ora*, where the

torrent Aigue glides over the edge of the mountains in a long feathery fall, and shivers down into a little emerald-green basin of still water.

The mountain above the waterfall is pierced near its summit by a natural tunnel, through which daylight appears. Near this is the so-called *Grotta del Eremito*, a hermitage very difficult of approach. The front is whitewashed, with a door, window, and half-effaced inscription in red letters, bearing the date 1528. The



CASTIGLIONE.

cell, of irregular form, is about 20 ft. high and 30 ft. deep ; in the rocky wall is cut 'Christo lo fece, Bernardo l'abita.'

At 15 k. the road passes within twenty minutes' walk of the hillock, between the Cima d'Ours and El Rasel (1,260 mètr.), upon which rises the dismally curious town of *Castiglione*, much destroyed by the earthquake of 1887.

'Behind, all is a radiant Eden ; before us spreads for miles a wilderness of bleak, arid, desolate precipices, without a tree or a patch of verdure to cheer the eye, which wanders on to the distant snows, over billow upon billow of stony acclivity, on which

not a human habitation is to be seen, except where Castiglione rises grey and ghost-like from the mountain side. Even the town itself is as unlike a town as possible—no doors, no windows, no gates, apparently no inhabitants, and no visible approach to it up the precipitous rocks on which it is seated, so that we should scarcely believe it to be a town at all, save for the pointed campanile of its church, which overtops the other buildings. The barren shadowless slopes of rock are exposed to the full beams of the burning sun throughout the summer, while, all the winter long, the frost-laden wind beats furiously upon them and upon the unprotected town. It is not till you reach the foot of the Castiglione rock that tiny windows show themselves like loop-holes on the external walls for the better fortification of the place, whilst all the larger windows look towards the street. Some of the latter are mediaeval gothic, with a central pillar and sculptured capital dividing them. A rock-hewn staircase, winding round the steep, brings you to the narrow gateway, whence, when you stand upon the little platform in front, you discover a little world of mountain valleys beneath, each with a torrent curling and twisting through its windings.

'Most quaint of all the quaint towns in this wonderful district is Castiglione. Its steep streets twist so much that you can never see more than three doors before you; the approaches to its dwellings are mere footings cut in the rock; its storm-beaten campanile rises from yellow and orange houses, each with a painted image or ornamented roof-coping. And then the inhabitants! One would think all the old women in the Riviera must have been collected and exiled hither, such multitudes of ancient crones do you see, while not another living creature is visible, except the cocks and hens which make the streets one great poultry-yard, and which would seem to be the sole nutriment of the crones, for what else, animal or vegetable, is there for them to eat?'—*'A Winter at Mentone.'*

The road, from the tunnel of the Col di Guardia, has no further interest as far as (22 k.) Sospello. See p. 549.

9. *Castellare*, is accessible by carriage, taking the Rue de Castellare, from the Avenue Victor Emmanuel, and following

a winding road of great beauty; but the rugged, stony footpath which turns aside from the centre of the Mentone street has even more picturesqueness.

'As we enter the pine woods, the mountains develop new beauties at every step, and most lovely is the view towards evening, when the blue peaks of S. Agnèse, with its Saracenic castle on their highest summit, are seen relieved by the red stems of the old pine-trees, and the rich undergrowth of heath and myrtle. The trees are full of linnets, which the natives call "trenta-cinques," from the constant sound of their note, being "trenta-cinque, trenta-cinque," and as the path is a highway to the mountain olive-gardens, the air resounds with the cries of the donkey drivers, "Ulla" (Allez) and "Isa" (for shame), remonstrances which the donkeys constantly require to induce them to amble on with their heavy burdens of oil-casks or loads of olives and wood, and, in addition to these, one or two children often cling on behind. All the peasants turn round to salute those they meet, with a pleasant "bon jour," and a kindly feeling towards strangers, contrasting favourably with their reputation at the end of the last century, when the inhabitants of Castellare were celebrated for their cruelty, and the cupidity which led them to murder numbers of emigrants, escaping into Sardinia during the French Revolution, by the unfrequented paths of these desolate mountains.

'Castellare is 1,350 ft. above the sea, and a conspicuous object long before you reach it. The steep path ends near the entrance to the central of its three dirty little streets. A coloured campanile is perched upon a housetop near the entrance, and several dingy chapels belonging to different confraternities, remain with closed doors and grated windows, through which you may descry decaying pictures, and the collection of tinselled lanthorns and ragged banners, which are left to rust and moth till the next annual festa of their patron saint, when they are carried out in grand procession. The miniature piazza contained an abode of the once famous family of Lascaris, which ruled this, with almost every other mountain village in the neighbourhood. On one side is the principal church with its tall red tower, and in the little valley below, are two old chapels



dedicated to S. Antonio and S. Sebastiano, the latter a very old romanesque building, with a circular apse. Turning off by this chapel, another path may be taken in returning to Mentone, which comes out above the cemetery. . . Castellare has still many traces of the Spanish government, and "Usted"—your worship—still takes here the place of "Signor" or "Monsieur."—*'A Winter at Mentone.'*

The mountain peaks of the *Berceau* and *Gran' Mondo* are easily visited from Mentone in the day by way of Castellare, to which point, and as far as the Saracenic fortress of Old Castellare, donkeys may be taken. The ascent of the *Gran' Mondo* is fatiguing.

'The view from the summit is magnificent; on the N., across a gulf of green pines, is the glorious line of snowy peaks, with their purple children beneath; on the E., a ruin, probably of a Saracenic stronghold, crowns a neighbouring crag, and below is the stony bed of the *Roya*, winding away to *Ventimiglia*; on the W. are swelling blue mountains, amongst which rises the castellated rock of S. *Agnése*; and on the S., amid rolling clouds, stands the *Berceau*, black in the afternoon shadow, and, above it, the vast expanse of the Mediterranean, beyond the horizon of which, if you stand watching towards sunset, one after another of the snowy peaks of *Corsica* will slowly reveal themselves.'—*'A Winter at Mentone.'*

#### 10. *Grimaldi and Ciotti.*

'Beyond the brown tower, which stands on the point above the *Rochers Rouges* (and is now enclosed in the beautiful garden of Dr. Bennet) a steep little path ascends to the village of *Grimaldi*, whose broad, sunny terrace is as Italian a scene as any on the *Riviera*, for it is crossed by a dark archway, and lined on one side by bright houses, upon whose walls yellow gourds hang in the sun, with a little church, painted pink and yellow, while the other is overshadowed by old olive-trees, beneath which busy peasants are always grouped around an old moss-grown bake-house, and below which is seen the broad expanse of sea, here deep blue, there gleaming silver-white in the hot sunshine.

'Above Grimaldi the path is much steeper, winding to Ciotti Inferiore, then to Ciotti Superiore, a cluster of houses, whose church stands further off, on the highest ridge of the mountain. From behind the rock, at the back of the church, the sea-view is splendid, embracing the whole coast, with its numerous bays, as



GRIMALDI.

far as the Estrelles, the grand mountain barriers, with all the orange-clad valleys running up into them; and S. Agnèse, rising out of the mists, on its perpendicular cliff.'—*'A Winter at Mentone.'*

11. *Ventimiglia, Dolce acqua, and Bordighera, in Italy.*

Beyond S. Mauro, is the gaily painted church of *S. Agostino*,

The village near this is called *Latte*, the land of milk, from the richness of its soil. Hence we ascend to *Ventimiglia*—once *Albium Intermelium*, the capital of the *Intermelii*, and still the chief fortress between Nice and Genoa, and the place where railway travellers pass the Italian custom-house—which crowns the steep brown precipice with its white walls. It is entered by gates and a drawbridge, closing the narrow pass of the rock. Within, the town runs along a ledge in a picturesque outline of brightly coloured towers, old houses, and deserted convents, while deep down below lies a little port with fishing vessels and some curious isolated rocks. The *Cathedral*, of which S. Barnabas is said to have been the first bishop, stands on a terrace with a background of snowy mountains, and beside it is the palace of the *Lascaris*—who ruled *Ventimiglia* as counts in the middle-ages—with an open loggia and staircase. On a further crest of the hill is the yellow-brown romanesque *Church of S. Michele*, occupying the site of a temple of Castor and Pollux. From the half dry bed of the river *Roya*—the *Rituba* of Pliny and Lucan—is a very striking view of the old town and mountains.

Passing through the *Borgo di Ventimiglia*, a road turns off l. at the bridge over the *Nervia*, by the very curious old town of *Campo Rosso* and its romanesque church, to (12 k. from Mentone) *Dolce acqua*, a most picturesque place, with a tall bridge of a single arch over the *Nervia*, and a ruined palace-castle where the *Doria* reigned as sovereign princes.

*Bordighera* (5 k. beyond *Ventimiglia*) is chiefly remarkable for its palm-groves. For this and all further places along the coast, see *Cities of Northern Italy*.





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